TWO FREE CDs WORTH £714 WITH THIS ISSUE

Practical internet™

YOUR HANDS-ON GUIDE TO THE INTERNET

ISSUE 72 · OCTOBER 2002· £4.99

14:44
Windows Media
Select Tools
xda
Pocket PC
O2

NEW! Webmaster
27 pages of Web design advice
PAGE 47

BARGAIN BROADBAND

Find out how to get ADSL for just £9.99 a month p22

PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS 2.0

How Adobe is making Web design cheaper and easier!

CHATROOM HORROR STORIES

Oh my God, there's a body in the freezer... PAGE 32

THE FUTURE STARTS HERE!

Revealed! 10 hot new Internet technologies that will change your life for the better

80 PAGES OF ADVICE

WORKSHOPS
- Get into peer-2-peer networking
- Erase Internet Explorer's history
- Save entire Web sites to your PC

WEB DESIGN
- Six-page Dreamweaver special
- How to create Web safe colours
- Validate credit cards using PHP

SMALL BUSINESS ISPs

HOW TO PICK THE RIGHT PROVIDER

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"excite, enthuse and inform"
72
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PARAGON PUBLISHING
Issue 72

Our Data Centre. Your peace of mind.

Step 1:
Select Operating System

Cobalt RaQ

from £74.99 per month
The original "Web-in-a-box" solution.

Red Hat Linux

from £99.99 per month
Red Hat Linux is the industry standard for web hosting.

Microsoft Windows

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Microsoft Windows, the choice of small and large businesses alike.

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Your servers safe in our Data Centre.

Step 2:
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128MB/20GB/**5 GB** Data Transfer

RaQ 256
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RaQ 512
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RaQ 550 NEW
256MB/40GB/**15 GB** Data Transfer
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PIII 1.13Ghz/256MB/60GB/**15 GB** Data Transfer

Ultra
PIII 1.266Ghz/512MB/80GB/**25 GB** Data Transfer

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2xPIII 1.4Ghz/512MB/2x18GB SCSI Hard Disks running RAID 1/**35 GB** Data Transfer

Enterprise
2xAMD Athlon 2Ghz/1GB/4x36GB SCSI Hard Disks running RAID 5/**50 GB** Data Transfer

Enterprise Xeon NEW
2xIntel® Xeon® 2Ghz/2GB/4x72GB SCSI Hard Disks running RAID 5/**75 GB** Data Transfer

Advance
2xUltra Web Servers/Ultra II Database Server/Ultra II Mail Server/**100 GB** Data Transfer

Corporate NEW
3xUltra II Web Servers/Ultra Mail Server/Enterprise Database Server/
250 GB Data Transfer

Corporate Advanced NEW
4xEnterprise Web Servers/Xeon Database Server/Enterprise Mail Server/
400 GB Data Transfer

Sun Netra X1 128
400MHZ/128MB/20GB EIDE/
15 GB Data Transfer

Sun Netra X1 512
400MHZ/512MB/20GB EIDE/
25 GB Data Transfer

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Your server safe and secure in our Data Centre. Choose from a range of data transfer (bandwidth) per month and benefit from 24/7/365 unlimited technical support.

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Select Security

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only £100 per month
Protect your machine from unwanted visitors. Web based control panel allows you to add rules and deny undesirable visitors.

Back-up
Daily - only £120 per month
Weekly - only £60 per month
Running databases, holding customer information or involved in e-commerce? If your answer is "yes" then order back-ups now and benefit from free restores if required!

Advanced Systems Monitoring FREE
only £30 per month
The ultimate tool for knowing how your server is operating and running. Pre-empt critical failure and minimise server downtime with messaging via e-mail or SMS.

Plus Package
only £199.99 per month
(Save £600 per year)
Firewall, Daily Back-ups and Advanced Systems Monitoring bundled to save over £600 per year! The complete solution to your Web hosting security.

Step 4:
Relax with...

FREE AND UNLIMITED Technical Support
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Standard SLA:
Our Industry leading SLA is your guarantee of a totally reliable service. We'll pay you if it's not! Benefit from 99.9% connectivity, 30 minute reboot guarantee, 1:1 contention ratio on bandwidth and a price freeze-forever!

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Specially tailored for Enterprise level services and above, the Advanced SLA is perfect for mission critical sites. Backed by a money back guarantee, benefit from 99.999% connectivity, two hour hardware resolution, 30 minute reboot guarantee, 1:1 contention ratio on bandwidth and a price freeze-forever!

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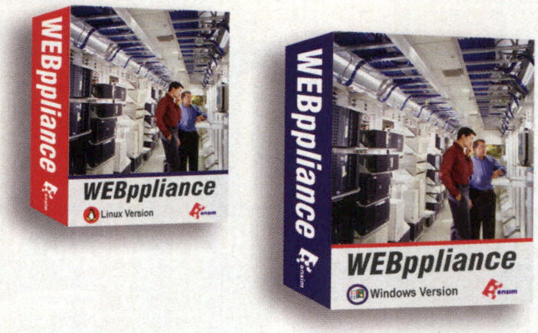
FREE!



Free Ensim software pre-installed and ready to run on every Linux and Windows server!

This industry-leading, web hosting platform allows our resellers and customers to manage their hosting environment and administer their server with no technical ability. Ownership of the administrative functions and configuration of your own server will delight your customers, maximize performance and minimize costs. Ensim will transform your Dedicated Server into an easy-to-use, web hosting appliance that's ideal for web developers, designers and single site users alike.

For resellers:

- Set-up shared hosting accounts
- Control panels for your customers
- Integrated DNS support
- Full bandwidth management
- Customisable private label control panels

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Free with Linux & Windows Servers

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Host Windows and Linux Domains on the same account.

domains

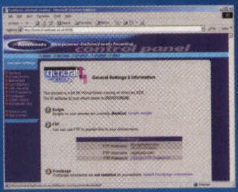
host unlimited domains

FREE INSTANT SET UP
£50 PER MONTH or £500 PA

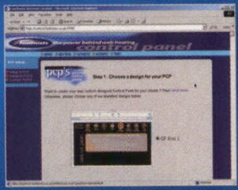
WARNING
A DEDICATED SERVER CAN SERIOUSLY LIMIT YOUR BUSINESS

HOSTING BEYOND LIMITS

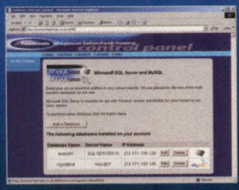
HOST UNLIMITED DOMAINS USING YOUR OWN WEB BASED CONTROL PANEL



100% Control over your domain names



Setup private label control panels for your customers that control just one of your domain names



Instantly setup full Microsoft SQL Server and MYSQL Databases

Reseller Account

Why buy a cheap dedicated server when you can host unlimited domain names with maximum flexibility with the Fasthosts Reseller account?

Benefits of the Reseller Account include:

- Manage both Windows 2000 domains and Linux domains on the same account.
- Your domains split across multiple high-performance web-servers for ultimate reliability.
- Innovative new features such as e-mail Virus Scanning and Matrix Stats being added all the time.
- Round the clock monitoring and management of all services by systems engineers and programmers.

A true 'data-centre-in-a-box' solution, the Reseller Account allows you to host unlimited websites on both Windows 2000 and Linux web-servers.

Using a powerful web-based control panel you can instantly setup and manage new websites, e-mail accounts, FTP accounts, databases and more!

Ideal for Web designers, resellers and entrepreneurs, the Fasthosts Reseller Account is the best solution for managing multiple domain names from one easy to use web based control panel.

Features

- Windows 2000 Web Servers
- New Redhat Linux Web Servers
- Host as many domains as you like with no additional charges
- Full Support for Microsoft ASP
- Microsoft Frontpage Extensions
- Support for Perl
- Private CGI-BIN with execute permissions for each domain
- New Preconfigured web scripts installable at the click of a button
- Matrix Stats – the most advanced website traffic analysis software providing real-time information about your site visitors
- E-mail virus protection
- Microsoft Media Streaming
- Password protected areas on your site with authentication from a text file or database
- Setup private label control panels for your customers
- Microsoft SQL and MYSQL Databases
- ODBC Database Connectivity
- Control everything via our powerful web based control panel
- Instant Online Setup
- Fasthosts Xtreme Support included as standard

* Some features (such as Microsoft SQL Server) attract additional monthly charges. Please see website for details.

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NOW OFFERING MORE BANDWIDTH THAN ANY OTHER PROVIDER

Xtreme SUPPORT

OBSESSIVE TECHNICIANS LOOKING AFTER YOU 24 HOURS A DAY

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Business & Personal Accounts available from £60 PA

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Welcome

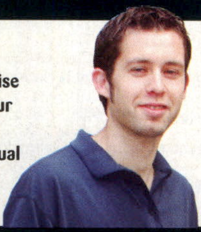
THE PI TEAM EXAMINE THEIR TEA LEAVES TO PREDICT THE NET'S FUTURE

Thomas Watson

TECHNICAL EDITOR

"The Net will be taken by the scruff of the neck and sorted out. This will result in much more regulation, but also a clearout of millions of dead sites"

James Thornton



STAFF WRITER

"Computers are going to rise up against us, lock us in our homes and get us to sit in front of our PCs doing virtual equations to feed them"

Jo Cole

SENIOR SUB EDITOR

"People will be able to download themselves into the Net and then PCs will start doing a HAL which will spell the end of humanity"

Paul Blachford

SENIOR DESIGNER

"Once everyone's bandwidth has been improved, life will revolve around the Web, with virtual cinemas, virtual bars and hopefully virtual work"

Clive Parker

NET TECHNICAL SPECIALIST

"Internet devices will not converge with TVs or other devices. Instead, a new breed of hand held wireless Net devices will come to the fore."

James Seabright

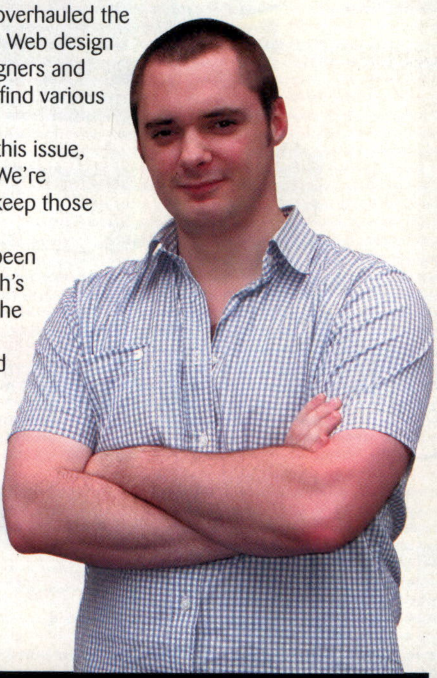
WEB SITE DESIGN SPECIALIST

"Web design will become a much more precise science, rather than the mess of different standards and software we have now, making life easier for designers and visitors"

Chris Ellison

COLUMNIST

"The Internet Watch Foundation will instruct ISPs to block all material originating from the Middle East on the grounds that it is potentially racist"



August is usually a holiday month for most of the UK, but not for the *Practical Internet* team. We've been busy, busy, busy over the last few weeks. First up we've given our logo a facelift to breathe some new life into the look and feel of the magazine. We've also overhauled the content of the magazine to bring you more Web design help than ever before. Our new 27-page section for designers and developers – Webmaster – starts on page 47. You'll also find various other tweaks and improvements under the bonnet.

Oops, I nearly forget. There are also two free CDs on this issue, including one packed with nine fully-working programs. We're planning more exciting promotions for future issues, so keep those eagle-eyes trained on the shelf of your local newsagent.

Along with the future of *Practical Internet*, we've also been ruminating hard on the future of the Net itself. This month's cover feature, The Future Starts Here, showcases ten of the most exciting Internet technologies that are either here already or knocking on the door. Find out how they could change your life for the better on page 22.

Oh, one final thing. Please, please take a few minutes to fill out the reader survey in this issue. It should only take about five minutes of your time and we'll enter you into a prize draw to win £1,000 of Web design software. With your help we can make *Practical Internet* an even better magazine than it is today.

Paul Newman, Editor
pauln@paragon.co.uk

Inside this issue of *Practical Internet*

P36

Bargain broadband

AS BROADBAND PRICES TUMBLE THOMAS WATSON SHOWS YOU WHERE TO FIND THE BEST DEALS AND HOW TO AVOID THE CONTENTION RATIO COWBOYS

Whether you're an ADSL, cable or satellite subscriber we show you where to find the best high-speed Internet access deals around

P42

SITE TEST

The big picture

WHATEVER THE GENRE, THERE'S PLENTY OF FILM ACTION ON THE INTERNET. POZ HULLS PRESENTS THE NOMINEES FOR BEST MOVIE WEB SITE

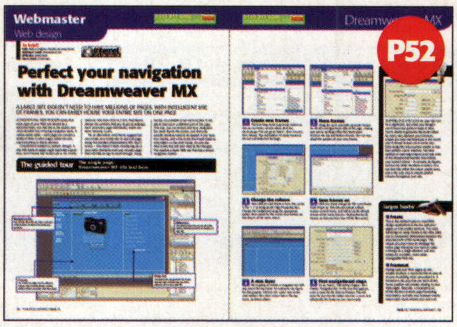
Fast-Rewind

The Internet Movie Database

Rotten Tomatoes

Guardian Unlimited Film

How do you tell which movie Web sites are OSCAR winners and which are box office flops? Read our Site test, that's how



Webmaster

Web design

P52

Perfect your navigation with Dreamweaver MX

The guided tour

Discover the secrets of simple, but effective navigation in our Dreamweaver MX masterclass

Reviews

Software spotlight

P110

Photoshop Elements 2.0

FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE HOTTEST GRAPHICS EDITOR AROUND ISN'T EASY, BUT PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS 2.0 MANAGES QUITE NICELY, AS THOMAS WATSON EXPLAINS

Work your way around Photoshop Elements 2.0

Can the latest version of Adobe's Photoshop Elements improve on the original? Find out in our in-depth test

Unbeatable Performance

"The recommended Evesham Axis 2200+ is a value-for-money machine that can be easily upgraded"
PC Advisor, Sep 2002

"Evesham works its magic again"
PC Pro, Sep 2002

"Fastest AMD machine ever" "Fantastic value."
Computeractive, Issue 116

"This is a textbook example of putting high speed components in a great value system. Go buy it."
Computer Buyer, Sep 2002

Awards attributed to Axis 2000+RK:

"The Samsung CRT monitor offers excellent performance."
What Computer, April, 2002

"value for money"
PC Advisor, April, 2002

"the company really has surpassed itself."
Computer Buyer, April, 2002

"A stunning selection of top-notch hardware"
PC Pro, April, 2002

"wins hands down"
Computer Active, Issue 110

The all new Axis 2200+RK2 picks up the baton from its predecessor and sprints ahead of the competition with an even more powerful performance. This PC is fast out the block and has already scooped 4 top awards including the coveted Computeractive BUY IT! award and Computer Buyer Best Buy accolade.

e2Go AXIS 2200+RK2 e-code AX1073-37

- **AMD Athlon XP 2200+ Processor**
- Asus A7V333 motherboard with Via KT333 chipset and USB 2.0
- 512MB DDR RAM (PC2700) (2x256MB)
- 80GB 7200rpm UDMA100 hard drive with 2MB buffer
- 64MB nVIDIA GeForce4 Ti4200 graphics with TV-out & DVI
- 19" (18" visible) Samsung SM957 DynaFlat monitor
- 16x DVD-ROM drive
- CD-RW drive (40x12x40) with BURN-proof & Zone CLV technology
- v92 56k Internet ready modem
- Sound Blaster Audigy Dolby Surround & Firewire (OEM)
- Creative® Inspire 5.1 5300 speakers
- Microsoft Internet Keyboard & Logitech Optical Wheel Mouse
- Pinnacle Studio 7 video editing software
- Microsoft® Windows XP Home

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AXIS 2000+KD e-code AX1076-37

- **AMD Athlon XP 2000+ Processor**
- 256MB DDR RAM (PC2100)
- 60GB 7200rpm UDMA100 hard drive with 2MB buffer
- 64MB nVIDIA GeForce4 MX420 graphics with TV-out & DVI
- 17" (16" visible) evesham EZ Flat monitor
- 16x DVD-ROM drive
- CD-RW drive (32x12x40) with BURN-proof & zone CLV technology
- v92 56k Internet ready modem
- C-Media Sound Blaster compatible 6 channel audio
- Cambridge Soundworks Four Point Surround speakers
- Microsoft® Windows XP Home

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"An excellent system"
COMPUTER BUYER

Highly Commended
PCW

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- 60GB 7200rpm UDMA100 hard drive with 2MB buffer
- 64MB nVIDIA GeForce4 MX420 graphics with TV-out & DVI
- 17" (16" visible) LG Flatron 795FT monitor
- 16x DVD-ROM drive
- CD-RW drive (32x12x40) with BURN-proof & zone CLV technology
- Firewire card (IEEE-1394)
- v92 56k Internet ready modem
- C-Media 6 channel Sound Blaster compatible sound
- Creative® Inspire 5.1 5300 speakers
- Microsoft® Windows XP Home

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"Sets a terrifying precedent to other manufacturers"
PC DIRECT

AXIS 2200+GF46 e-code AX1069-37

- **AMD Athlon XP 2200+ Processor**
- Asus A7V333 motherboard with Via KT333 chipset & USB 2.0
- 512MB DDR RAM (PC2700) (2x256MB)
- 120GB Western Digital 7200rpm UDMA100 hard drive with 8MB Buffer
- 128MB nVIDIA GeForce4 Ti4600 Ultra graphics with TV-out & DVI
- 19" (18" visible) LG Flatron 915FT+ monitor
- 16x DVD-ROM drive
- CD-RW drive (48x12x48) with BURN-proof & Zone CLV technology
- v92 56k Internet ready modem
- Sound Blaster Audigy Dolby Surround & Firewire (OEM)
- Creative® Inspire 5.1 5300 speakers
- Microsoft Internet Keyboard & Logitech Optical Wheel Mouse
- Microsoft® Windows XP Home

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"This machine is fast"

"an excellent system"

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- AXIS & EVOLUTION WARRANTY : 3 year warranty (2 years on-site), lifetime national rate technical support, 24x7 on-line support and Bigfix software installed.

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Microsoft WorksSuite 2002	£**40**ex VAT (£47.00)
Microsoft Office XP SBE	£**160**ex VAT (£188.00)
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Upgrade to 3 years on-site warranty (systems with 3yr warranty)	£**29**ex VAT (£34.08)

AWARD WINNING SUPPORT

Evesham recommends Microsoft® Windows® XP

At Evesham it's all about the service we offer. With all Evesham PCs, we supply a 2 year on-site hardware warranty with a 3rd year return-to-base warranty. On top of our standard warranty we provide the following support service:

- **Lifetime telephone technical support** (national rate)
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- **BigFix software installed**

Price does not include delivery which is £34+VAT (£39.95) - UK mainland only. All systems and upgrades are subject to availability. Including VAT pricing is displayed within brackets. Prices correct at date of publication. Price and specifications subject to change without notice. Finance is subject to status. Evesham's Terms and Conditions apply and are available on request. Actual products may not match photographic representations. On-site warranty is for hardware faults only, we will endeavour to resolve configuration issues via our support line. Technical Support opening hours are Monday to Saturday 9:00 to 17:20. On-site warranty applies to UK mainland only (this does not include Isle of Man or Isle of Wight), and covers base unit only. Monitors are covered by 2 year swap-out warranty dealt directly by the monitor manufacturer. Upgrade to warranty available to customers in Northern Ireland, 2 years cover for £100+VAT. Reviews and awards have been attributed to these systems with their previous names. Featured systems are based upon the original award winning specification. Bundled versions of video cards, sound cards and software are not full retail packs, and the software features on-line documentation. Cards with TV out functions provide composite video output not RF output. All DVD-ROM drives are supplied set to region 2. We do not support the use of other regions on Evesham PCs. You will require special permission to copy CDs that are copyright. Hard disk capacities are quoted in thousands of millions of bytes (as is standard industry practice) and are prior to installation of operating systems and other applications. As part of our staff training some telephone calls may be monitored. AMD, AMD Athlon and AMD Duron are trademarks of Advanced Micro Devices. Intel, the Intel Inside logo, Celeron and Pentium 4 are trademakrs of the corporation. E&OE.

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March 2002

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March 2002

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e-code EV1038-37 e2Go

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- 512MB DDR RAM (PC2100) (2x256MB)
- 120GB Western Digital 7200rpm UDMA100 hard drive with 8MB buffer
- 128MB nVIDIA GeForce4 Ti4600 Ultra graphics with TV-out & DVI
- 19" (18" visible) LG Flatron 915FT+ monitor
- 16x DVD-ROM drive
- CD-RW drive (48x12x48) with BURN-proof & Zone CLV technology
- v92 56k Internet ready modem
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- Creative® Inspire 5.1 5300 speakers
- Microsoft Internet Keyboard & Logitech Optical Wheel Mouse
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£**1249**ex VAT (£1467.58)

"Impressive"

Voyager 5600 Series

- **Intel Processor** - see table below
- 16MB DDR ATI Mobility graphics
- 9 cell Li-Ion Battery (life up to 3 hrs approx.)
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- 10/100 network card
- Built-in audio and speakers
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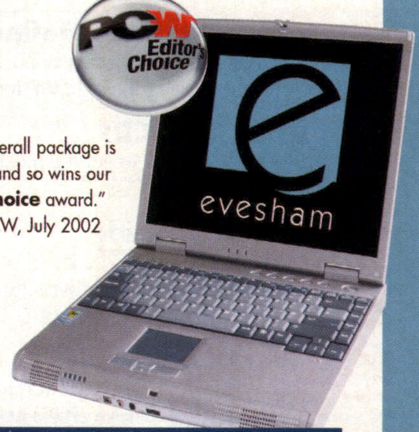
- Microsoft® Windows XP Home
- Warranty - 2 year return to base with accidental damage insurance

PCW Editor's Choice

"The overall package is impressive and so wins our **Editor's Choice** award."
PCW, July 2002



	5614 **C1.8**	5614 **2.0**	5614 **2.4** Combo	5615 **2.0**	5615 **2.4** Combo
Processor	**Intel Celeron 1.8GHz**	**Intel Pentium 4 2.0GHz**	**Intel Pentium 4 2.4GHz**	**Intel Pentium 4 2.0GHz**	**Intel Pentium 4 2.4GHz**
SDRAM	256MB	256MB	256MB	256MB	512MB
Hard Disk	20GB Fujitsu Silent	30GB Fujitsu Silent	40GB Fujitsu Silent	30GB Fujitsu Silent	40GB Fujitsu Silent
Screen Size	14" TFT	14" TFT	14" TFT	15" TFT	15" TFT
Drive	8x DVD ROM	8x DVD ROM	DVD/CD-RW Combo	8x DVD ROM	DVD/CD-RW Combo
Price	£**929**ex VAT (£1091.58)	£**999**ex VAT (£1173.83)	£**1099**ex VAT (£1291.33)	£**1049**ex VAT (£1232.58)	£**1199**ex VAT (£1408.83)
e-CODE	VY1047-37	VY1042-37	VY1048-37	VY1034-37	VY1049-37

Evesham recommends Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional for Mobile Computing

EVOLUTION 2400RK

e-code AX1039-37

- **Intel Pentium 4 2.4GHz processor with 512KB on die cache and 533MHz FSB**
- Asus P4B533 motherboard with Intel 845 chipset and USB 2.0
- 512MB DDR RAM (PC2100) (2x256MB)
- 80GB 7200rpm UDMA100 hard drive with 2MB buffer
- 64MB DDR ATI Radeon 8500 graphics with TV-out & DVI
- 19" (18" visible) Samsung SM957 DynaFlat monitor
- 16x DVD-ROM drive
- CD-RW drive (40x12x40) with BURN-proof & Zone CLV technology
- v92 56k Internet ready modem
- Sound Blaster Audigy Dolby Surround & Firewire (OEM)
- Creative® Inspire 5.1 5300 speakers
- Microsoft Internet Keyboard & Logitech Optical Wheel Mouse
- Microsoft® Windows XP Home

£**999**ex VAT (£1173.83)

intel inside pentium 4 | POWERED BY DDR MEMORY | ATI RADEON

MONITOR UPGRADES

	to: 17" LG FLATRON 795FT	to: 19" Samsung SM957 DF	to: 19" LG FLATRON 915FT+	to: 15" LG 1510S TFT	to: 15" Samsung SM151D DVI TFT	to: 17" LG 782LE DVI TFT	to: 18" LG L1810B DVI TFT
from: 17" evesham EZ Flat	£54 (£63.45)	£71 (£83.43)	£144 (£169.20)	£210 (£246.75)	£206 (£242.05)	£387 (£454.75)	£562 (£660.35)
from: 17" LG Flatron 795FT		£17 (£19.98)	£90 (£105.75)	£158 (£185.65)	£152 (£178.60)	£333 (£391.28)	£509 (£598.08)
from: 19" Samsung SM957 DF			£73 (£85.78)	£141 (£165.68)	£135 (£158.63)	£316 (£371.30)	£492 (£578.10)
from: 19" LG Flatron 915FT+				£68 (£79.90)	£63 (£74.03)	£250 (£293.75)	£419 (£492.33)

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Issue 72

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internet

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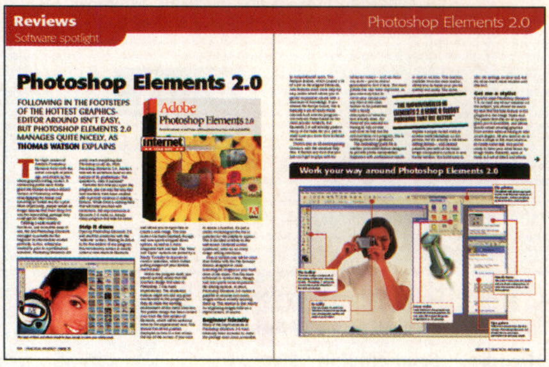

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Photoshop Elements 2.0

Photoshop Elements 2.0

FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE HOTTEST GRAPHICS-EDITOR AROUND ISN'T EASY, BUT PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS 2.0 MANAGES QUITE NICELY, AS **THOMAS WATSON** EXPLAINS

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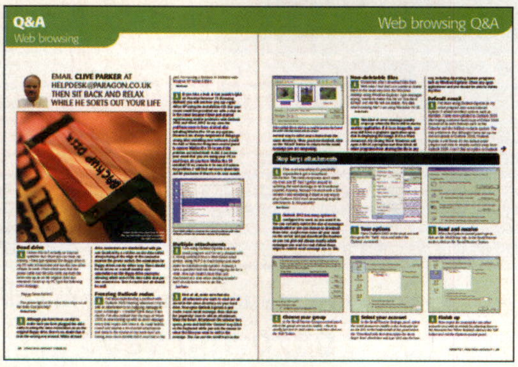

Q&A
Web browsing

Web browsing Q&A

EMAIL **CLIVE PARKER** AT HELPDESK@PARAGON.CO.UK THEN SIT BACK AND RELAX WHILE HE SORTS OUT YOUR LIFE

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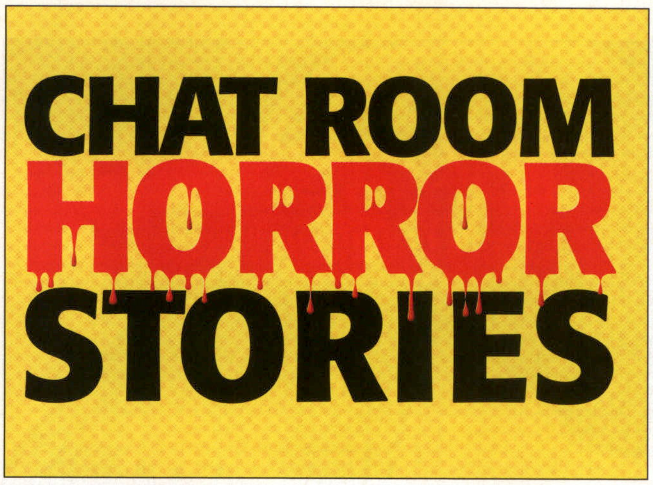
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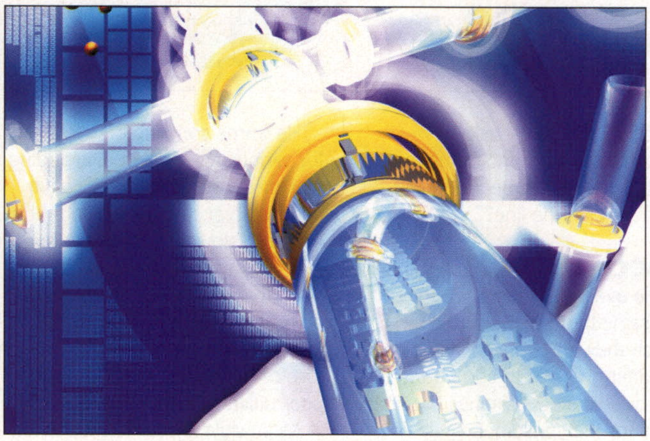

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Webmaster

Webmaster
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Dreamweaver MX
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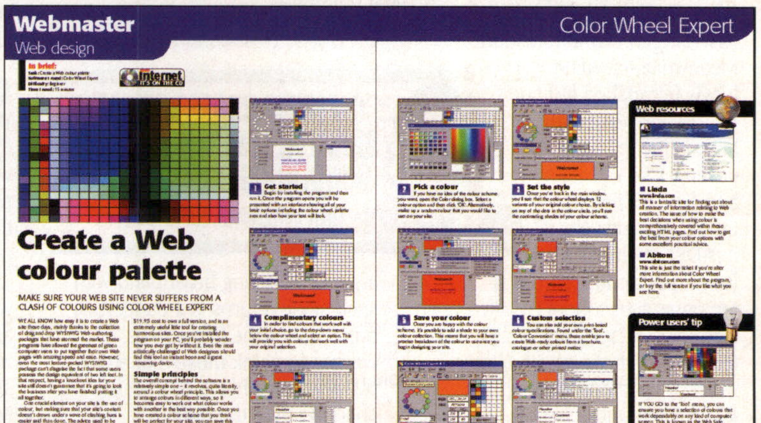

Webmaster
Web design

Color Wheel Expert

Create a Web colour palette

MAKE SURE YOUR WEB SITE NEVER SUFFERS FROM A CLASH OF COLOURS USING COLOR WHEEL EXPERT

Simple principles

1 **Get started**

2 **Pick a colour**

3 **Set the style**

4 **Complimentary colours**

5 **Save your colour**

6 **Custom selection**

7 **Create a layout**

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Linda

Abitom

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BEST EVER CD! PACKED WITH FULL VERSIONS
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THE COMPLETE NET SECURITY TOOLKIT
Over 100 programs to protect your PC and Mac from the worst of the Internet
Safe and sound
Keep your children safe
Protect your privacy
Practical Internet 72 Disc Two

DISC TWO
THE COMPLETE INTERNET SECURITY TOOLKIT

Programs to destroy viruses, stop the hackers and smash spyware

News All the latest Web sites, products and services

The real truth about cheap broadband

HIGH SPEED NET ACCESS IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR UNDER £20 A MONTH BUT ARE THESE NEW SERVICES ALL THEY'RE CRACKED UP TO BE?

Will some broadband ISPs sink because of the offers they're making?

BROADBAND INTERNET DEALS have fallen under £20 per month for the first time ever, as ISPs slug it out in the battle for subscribers. However, industry experts are warning that these services may be selling users short.

Cheapest of the bunch at £18.95 per month is the service from ET Global Solutions (**www.etglobalsolutions.com**). Meanwhile, fairADSL (**www.fairadsl.co.uk**) and V21 (**www.v21.co.uk**) have launched services costing £18.99 and £19.99 per month respectively.

ADSL4home (**www.adsl4home.co.uk**) is tempting subscribers by offering an incredible £11.75 per month deal for the first three months, after which the service goes up to £29.99 a month.

The ISPs are having to push back their profit margins in order to offer these prices, though. Currently, the wholesale charge for ADSL set by BT is £14.75+VAT per month.

"fairADSL believes that the growth of broadband take-up has been hindered by the high cost charged by the current providers," explained Patrick O'Neill, Head of Communications at fairADSL. "The company is keeping its cost to a minimum and passing on the benefits to our customers."

Cheap and cheerful?

However, certain observers from within the industry are voicing concerns over whether these cut-price services can deliver the same level of technical support and quality of connection offered by many of the more pricey ADSL providers. Some even suggest that the budget broadband ISPs may not be able to stand the test of time if they continue to rely on such tight profit margins.

Ann Williams, Brand Manager at UK Online (**www.ukonline.net**) argues: "Offering broadband with such small returns is a dangerous business for the industry as customers think those that are building sustainable businesses are charging over the odds.

"OFFERING BROADBAND WITH SMALL RETURNS IS A DANGEROUS BUSINESS"
ANN WILLIAMS, UK ONLINE

"Customers must ask themselves, will some of the low cost providers still be around further down the line?".

Check the small print

While every broadband ISP offers the same basic ADSL service, which they buy from BT, what each provider chooses to add on top of this basic cost determines the final price for the consumer.

"Consumers must be careful when selecting an ADSL provider as some ISPs have been known to hide some important points in the small print" explained Steve Kaye, Managing Director of ISP, V21.

He warns consumers to look out for various tell-tale signs, including making sure that you receive full bandwidth access, which should be 512Kbps download speed and 256Kbps upload speed; checking that the contention ratio offered is 50:1 and that the ISP is not implementing 'port blocking', which forbids users from using peer-to-peer utilities.

Meanwhile, Tiscali has launched its broadband service, charging customers £27.99 a month, plus a one-off fee of £99.99 covering the activation charge and the cost of the modem. See **www.tiscali.co.uk** for more information.

BT adopts a community spirit

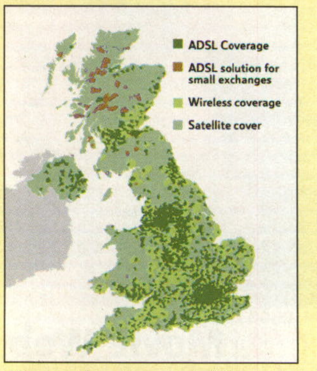
HOPE FOR SMALL EXCHANGES AS TELCO TRIALS SCHEME TO BRING BROADBAND TO MORE PEOPLE

BT IS TRIALLING a new 'community broadband' concept, which could bring ADSL technology to small exchanges where it was not previously commercially viable.

The six month trial, which kicks off this autumn, involves a sponsoring body with a social, development or commercial interest in bringing high speed Internet to specific areas.

Each sponsoring organisation teams up with a broadband ISP of their choice to garner demand, source funding and deliver service. The sponsor will contribute £7,000 towards the trial of each ADSL exchange unit, which supports approximately 16 users.

"We are determined to spread the benefits of broadband," said John Davies, Chief Operations officer of BT Wholesale.



BT's new scheme is hoping to bring broadband to more people than ever

shorts

→ Wireless broadband operator Tele2 UK has changed its name to Liberty Broadband (**www.libertybroadband.co.uk**. After refusing to accept new customers, it is now set to offer business to new subscribers.

Liberty Broadband
Welcome to Liberty Broadband

→ Looking to save a quick buck on your phone and Internet bills? Breathe has launched the first of its bundled Internet and telephone packages, which costs £19.99 per month and combines 24/7 Net access with free evening and weekend home phone calls. More details are available from **www.breathe.com**.

breathe

Got a news story?
Please contact
James Thornton
Telephone: 01202 209379
Fax: 01202 299955
Email: jamest@paragon.co.uk

Net users are trigger-unhappy

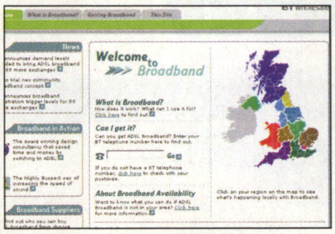
BT SETS TRIGGER LEVELS THAT NEED TO BE MET BEFORE UPGRADING EXCHANGES, RURAL COMMUNITIES SAY THEY ARE TOO HIGH

BT WHOLESALE HAS laid down the gauntlet to rural Internet users who are salivating over the prospect of upgrading to broadband.

The company has announced ADSL registration 'trigger' levels for 88 exchanges. If these levels are met, BT will look into upgrading the exchange to receive broadband.

A trigger level of 200 customer registrations has been fixed for 53 exchanges, while the remaining have levels varying from 650 to 750 end users.

"Our review has identified lower than average costs to link 53 of these exchanges back to our core network," said BT Wholesale Director of Broadband, Bruce Stanford.



Welcome to Broadband

What is Broadband?
How does it work? What can I use it for? Click here to find out

Can I get it?
Can you get ADSL Broadband? Enter your BT telephone number here to find out.

Go

If you do not have a BT telephone number, click here to check with your postcode.

About Broadband Availability
Want to know what you can do if ADSL Broadband is not in your area? Click here for more information

Click on your region on the map to see what's happening locally with Broadband.

BT claims it is helping rural communities get broadband, but many see flaws in the plan

However, many Net users living in these areas believe the trigger levels to be too high and that more must be done to foster public interest in rural communities.

Robe Purle, who runs the Broadband Dereham campaign (**www.broadbanddereham.info**) said: "Actually getting people to understand the potential benefits of ADSL is a major struggle."

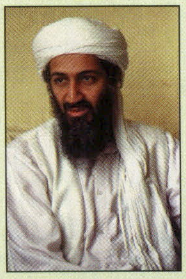
"I think that the trigger levels are probably too high," said Magnus Huckvale of Broadband for Bradford-on-Avon (**www.bradford-on-avon.info**). "I'd like to see BT work with local and national government to lower trigger levels."

No peace for the wicked

SMUT SALESMAN WAGES WAR ON AL QAEDA SITE

AN ONLINE PORNOGRAPHER has joined the US war on terror by mounting an attack on a site believed to be run by al Qaeda.

Jon Messner, who runs a site featuring naked snaps of his wife, emerged as a bizarre contender in the race to snare Bin Laden, after hijacking the alleged terrorist site, Al Neda, and monitoring all the postings on the site.



Will a porn baron bring Bin Laden to his knees?

Messner, who has made a fortune through his adult entertainment empire said: "I made it my business at the time to do anything and everything to disrupt the communication of terrorists on the Internet."

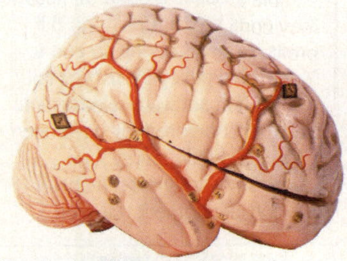
IT linked to autism

'GEEK GENE' BLAMED FOR BRAIN CONDITION

EXPERTS ARE WARNING that a rise in cases of autism in the Silicon Valley area of California could be due to a type of gene commonly found in IT workers.

It's estimated that one in 150 children in the area are born with some sort of autistic condition, which can deprive them of key social skills, yet lead to remarkable abilities in other areas. Closer to home, there is also evidence of a similar pattern in the high-tech 'Silicon Fen' area of Cambridgeshire.

Some scientists believe that tech-savvy workers who have the analytical skills needed to work in IT, but who feel out of place socially, may be carrying the genes that contribute to autism.



IT workers could be carrying the genes that cause the autism brain condition in children

So how does it get passed on? Dr Robin Hansen, a developmental paediatrician at the Mind Institute in Sacramento explained to BBC News Online: "If your father is a computer whiz and has four genes, and your mother has three genes, you might well get all seven and get full-blown autism."

Freeserve changes name

NOW WHAT DO THEY WANADOO THAT FOR?

MILLIONS OF FREESERVE subscribers could be forced to change their email address, as the ISP plans to change its name to move in line with its French parent company, Wanadoo.

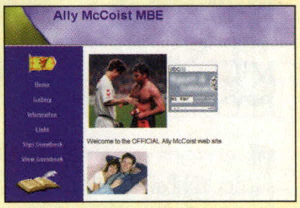
The rebranding exercise is being backed by new Freeserve chief Nicholas Dufourcq and is designed to help the company compete against Europe-wide brands such as Tiscali and AOL. As a result, around 2.5 million Freeserve customers could see their address change to '@wanadoo.co.uk'.

"The time is right to evaluate what a rebranding may or may not mean for the customer experience," explained a Freeserve statement.

freeserve
www.freeserve.com

Celeb Web

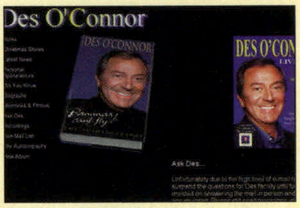
WE CAST A CRITICAL EYE OVER THE SITES OF THE RICH AND FAMOUS



Ally McCoist

http://village.fortunecity.com/gypsyboys/585

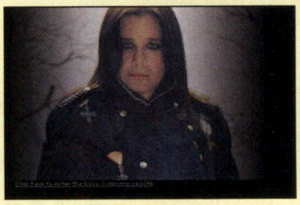
He may have chosen to play away with Patsy Kensit recently, but 'Super' Ally's tartan army of fans still adore him. Though its design is slightly ragged, the site contains a nice photo gallery detailing the Rangers hot shot's football career.



Des O'Connor

www.des-oconnor.com

Did you know that Des was a winger for Northampton Town for three years before his crooning career took off? Well, neither did we until we delved into his info-packed site, which dishes up all the latest Des news, details of personal appearances and photos.



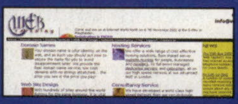
Ozzy Osbourne

www.ozzy.com

Bat-munching Brummie rock God Ozzy has never been one to shun the limelight and this gives you an even greater insight into his life. As well as giving you the lowdown on the Ozzman's latest movements, the site contains video footage of some memorable gigs.

→

News shorts



→ Business ISP Web Tapestry is planning to weave its way into the residential Internet market with the launch of a new pay-as-you-go dial-up service. Details of the Dial Tapestry service are available from **www.webtapestry.co.uk**.

→ Salty sea dogs take note, BT Openworld has launched a new subscription travel club service which is offering users the chance to meet intrepid sailor Ellen MacArthur. For more information, trek to **www.btopenworld.com/travelclub**.

Investigation into IE6 security flaw

MICROSOFT'S POOR SECURITY TRACK RECORD COMES BACK TO HAUNT IT

MICROSOFT IS INVESTIGATING a suspected flaw within Internet Explorer that threatens to expose Net users' personal details online.

After being consistently blighted by security holes in its software, this latest risk to Microsoft's popular browser allows hackers to trick Net users into thinking they are visiting a legitimate Web site then con them into entering personal information.

The flaw, which was uncovered by US-based programmer Mike Benham, is said to affect IE 5.0 as well as 5.5 and 6.0 versions of the browser. Benham says that the software has loopholes in handling digital certificates which verify whether a site is genuine or not. While tricky to execute, this gives hackers the chance to intercept information sent to banking or ecommerce sites.

"I would consider this to be extremely severe," said Benham in a newsgroup posting. "Any of the standard connection hi-jacking techniques can be combined with this vulnerability to produce a successful man-in-the-middle attack."

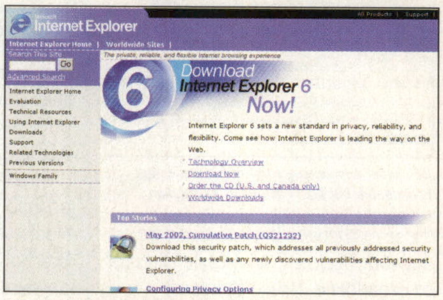
Old hat

Microsoft is no stranger to such loopholes in its software, and the company issues around 60 security advisories a year. Chairman Bill Gates is now ordering an end to Microsoft's policy of rushing out feature-rich software releases into the market before they have been fully tested for security flaws.

The software giant's TechNet Support department released a statement confirming its regret over this latest security glitch, saying: "Clearly it would have been best if a balanced assessment of the issue and its risk had been available from the start.

"While Microsoft has confirmed that the flaw does exist, it's important to note that exploiting it would be difficult for several reasons," the statement concluded.

The company is now working on a patch, which will be available from **www.microsoft.com**.



The private, reliable, and flexible internet browsing experience

Internet Explorer 6 sets a new standard in privacy, reliability, and flexibility. Come see how Internet Explorer is leading the way on the Web.

- Technology Overview
- Download Now
- Order the CD (U.S. and Canada only)
- Worldwide Downloads

May 2002, Cumulative Patch (Q321232)

Download this security patch, which addresses all previously addressed security vulnerabilities, as well as any newly discovered vulnerabilities affecting Internet Explorer.

Configuring Privacy Options

There's no denying IE6 is a great browser, but anyone paranoid about security should be aware of its vulnerabilities

Missal now online

TECHNOLOGY BRINGS HISTORY TO LIFE AS MEDIEVAL WORK GOES ONLINE

Forget libraries – the Net's the place for ancient tomes

NET USERS CAN now leaf through one of the most valuable books in the country.

The precious 800-year-old Sherborne Missal has been put on the Web using new technology that allows people to study it without actually handling it. Visitors are able to turn the richly-illustrated pages of the £15m work of art, which was created to set out the order of service of the Catholic Church.

Up to now the book has only been available on screens at the British Library, as it is too fragile to be handled by the public. However, thanks to the 'turning the pages' technology employed by the site, anyone can visit to pore over the tome, which was created in the early 15th Century at Sherborne Abbey, Dorset.

The site also boasts audio commentaries as well as clips of some of the birds that appear in the book's border.

The man behind the 'turning the pages' technology, Clive Izard, said: "This Web site allows the user to experience the beauty of the Sherborne Missal in their own home, classroom of office. Hopefully it will inspire users to investigate further."

To see the Sherborne Missal online in all its glory, pay a visit to **www.bl.uk/collections/treasures/digitisation.html**.

STAT ATTACK

The 10 Weirdest online purchases

A RECENT UK Online survey into the strangest things Net users have bought online threw up some bizarre and disturbing results.

A bag of clouds

An elephant (species not specified)

An invisible doll

A pocket gym

Some racing snails

Musical condoms

'Cook your own' dog biscuits

Mothballs

A star

A rare letter from Father Christmas

Source: UK Online (www.ukonline.net)

NEW

Software

READ UP ON ALL THE LATEST AND GREATEST SOFTWARE

Digital Camera Suite

www.serif.com

Serif
Digital Camera Suite
£49.99

This feature-packed suite of utilities helps you do something worthwhile with your pictures thanks to its photo-management, retouching and montage creation tools. So whatever the occasion, there's no excuse for shonkey, dull images.

Actinic Catalog 6

www.actinic.co.uk

ACTINIC CATALOG
£379

As the utter madness of the dotcom boom and subsequent bust fades into the annals of history, eCommerce is experiencing something of a mini revival, with many online stores reporting a profit. This new version of the popular Actinic Catalog software helps you mastermind a successful e-business, giving you all the tools you need.

Jaguar Mac OS X Version 10.2

www.apple.com

Despite changing its logo to look like the inside of Del Boy's Robin Reliant, Apple looks to be onto a winner with this latest update to its Operating System, dubbed 'Jaguar'. With its Unix-based foundation, OS X 10.2 is loaded with over 150 new features including an instant messaging client, an address book that acts as an activity centre for all your contacts, along with a fully featured search engine – Sherlock 3.

Mac OS X
£98.99

Web Hosting

for your business

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a year

Redstation's Business Hosting account is an advanced feature-rich hosting solution powered by Dell Windows 2000 servers - located within our secure data centre with multiple connections to the internet providing high speed access to your website.

For **£99 per annum** this option includes your own advanced Web Control Panel for real-time administration of every aspect of your website and email configuration - plus all these features:

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A massive 300MB of web space is included as standard - enough for even the biggest and fastest growing website.

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Microsoft FrontPage Extensions
Install FrontPage Extensions 2002 on your website at the click of a button using the Redstation control panel.

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Configure Microsoft Access and SQL2000 database connections in seconds.

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You can enable support for ASP and ASP.NET at the click of a button using the Redstation control panel.

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Directory Permissions Control
Full control of permissions on your website directories is made easy with the Redstation control panel.

Real-time AntiVirus Protection
Every file on your website is monitored and scanned in real-time by advanced server virus protection software. If a virus is discovered it is immediately quarantined, cleaned and replaced.

Daily Back-Up
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Server Side Includes utilises non-complex commands that can be easily inserted into HTML pages to execute CGI programs, insert files, insert a date and more.

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Facilitates the transfer of files from your local hard disk to your website using a browser.

Jmail
Allow your website visitors to complete online enquiry and order forms which are instantly sent to an email address of your choice.

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Our friendly and helpful technical support team are available by telephone and email to help resolve any problems you have with your Redstation hosting account.

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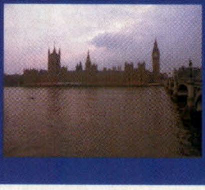
technology that works for your business

shorts

→ MPs are running scared of the Net. According to a survey by training specialist Parity (**www.parity.co.uk**) politicians aren't communicating with constituents via email, with 75% of them admitting that they prefer to handle enquiries by post.



→ If your want to relive those golden years spent huddled around the water fountain slagging off your boss, then head for **www.pastworkmates.com**. The site allows you to hook up with former colleagues by registering your details then searching the site to find out what your old workmates are up to.

Net Watch

INTERNET FREEDOM'S **CHRIS ELLISON** MONITORS THE LATEST ONLINE DEVELOPMENTS

LAST JULY, SCIENTISTS built a polio virus from scratch using a set of genetic instructions available on the Internet. Researchers at the State University of New York announced that they had built a synthetic version of the virus using chemicals obtained by mail order and publicly available data on the virus's genetic code (Science, July 2002). The publication came in the wake of the announcement that natural polio had been officially eradicated from Europe and that plans are afoot to eradicate the virus by 2005.

> **"SCIENTISTS ANNOUNCED THEY BUILT A VIRUS BY MAIL ORDER"**

Far from being good news, in the post-11 September world, the idea that the genetic code of a virus is available on the Net is greeted with nothing but fear. Concern quickly spread that smallpox might be just as easily synthesised by someone.

Synthetic world

Bioinformatics – the use of large evolving databases of genetic code – represents one of the great beneficiaries of the Internet. It brings together geneticists from around the world in an effort to understand and control DNA.

The use of the Net to help in the synthesis of viruses illustrates the great human achievements that are possible when people around the world pool their information resources. As Gregory Stock, author of 'Redesigning Humans' suggests, our real fear for biotechnology research should be "not that we will go too quickly – but that we will go too slowly".

Internet Freedom can be contacted on ***campaign@netfreedom.org****. The campaign's Web site is at* ***www.netfreedom.org***

Open source finally comes of age

TECH GIANTS BACK THE NEXT GENERATION OPERATING SYSTEM AT LINUXWORLD EXPO

ELEVEN YEARS AFTER the first version was launched, Linux is starting to make waves in the world of technology.

The volume of high profile companies that turned out to the recent Linuxworld Conference and Expo (**www.linuxworldexpo.com**) proves how highly regarding the open source software currently is. Microsoft even made an appearance.

The popularity of the Operating System is largely down to its open source model of sharing its computer code, using only the finest programming, and creating a community of developers who help shape the software.

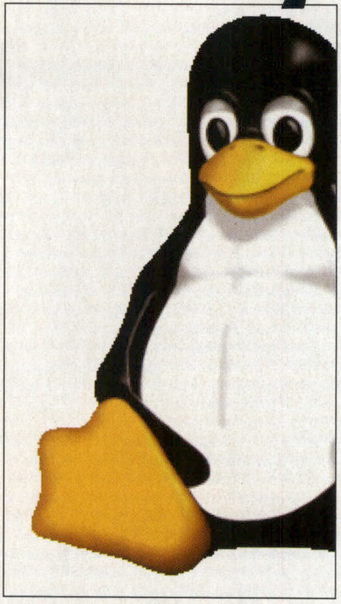
Linux, which is based on the influential Unix Operating System, was conceived by Finnish programmer Linus Tovalds and is now maintained by a community of programmers across the world. Sales of the software are expected to reach $280 million by 2006.

Surprise guest

Many were surprised to see Microsoft exhibiting at the Linuxworld show, as Linux is widely viewed as the biggest threat to Windows dominance of the computer market.

While Microsoft hasn't converted to Linux, the software giant has started allowing key partners to look at the source code of Windows and announced cut-down versions of its OS such as Windows CE.

In another boost for Linux, Sun Microsystems unveiled a range of cheap Web servers that will run its Operating System. Until now, Sun has been selling software and servers based on its own design, so its latest decision just goes to show how important Linux is becoming in the technology behind the inner workings of the Net.



With Linux currently being showered with attention, this little fella could get very popular

Scott McNealy, Chief Executive of Sun Microsystems said: "We're leveraging the Linux opportunity and helping customers at the same time by bringing enterprise-level support to the open source community."

Hoax of the month

WARNINGS OF PREMIUM RATE PHONE SCAMS EXPOSED AS AN URBAN MYTH

A MUCH-CIRCULATED email warning of a telephone scam has been exposed as a hoax in itself.

The premise of the email warned of a woman knocking on the door complaining that her car had broken down and needing to use the phone to call her husband. She would then pick up the phone and pretend to ring her hubby, but in reality dial a premium rate phone line, set up by the scammers to charge £50 a minute.

If someone knocks on your door claiming their car has broken down, what would you do?

The email is believed to have started from the Northamptonshire police force, with the intention of warning people of this 'danger'. After the email managed to work its way across the country it became apparent that there was a flaw in the story. The maximum anyone is allowed to charge for a premium rate call is £1.50 per minute.

As a result Northamptonshire police were forced to eat their words, issuing a statement saying: "We can confirm information circulated electronically to businesses by the Force regarding a telephone fraud, is now believed to be an urban legend."

It's not the length

A NEW SITE that can calculate the size of a man's meat and two veg has been launched.

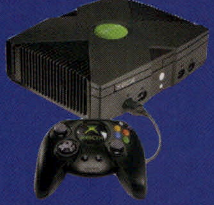
The Size Him Up site (**www.sizehimup.co.uk**) works out manhood length using a mathematical formula based on the dimensions of a man's hands, feet and nose.

According to the Metro newspaper who applied the test to celebrities, David Beckham doesn't have quite the same presence off the field of play, while king of the winkies is Aussie swimmer Ian Thorpe who boasts an 'extra extra large' 8.3 inches.

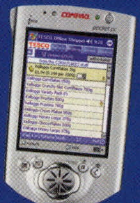
Remember, though, it's not the length of the wand it's what you do with it.

Practical internet NEXT ISSUE ON SALE 17 OCTOBER 2002

→ Microsoft has stolen a march on Sony by announcing details of its online gaming service for the Xbox. US gamers will be able to take advantage of the Xbox Live service from 15 November, allowing them to thrash it out with other console fans across the States.



→ Shoppers in the UK can now buy their groceries via a handheld computer, thanks to a new service from Tesco (**www.tesco.com**). The supermarket giant is claiming a world first with its 'Pocket Shopper' service, which lets users choose from a menu of over 20,000 products using devices running Pocket PC.



Godzilla is on the rampage. Thankfully there is no sign of Godzooky

Blogger attacked by Godzilla

LIZARD'S OWNERS GO ON RAMPAGE OVER DOMAIN NAME

POPULAR WEB LOG Davezilla is under threat from menacing owners of the *Godzilla* rights who claim that the blog flaunts trademark regulations.

Toho Ltd, which owns the cartoon reptile's trademark claims that the use of 'zilla' in the domain name and the site's dinosaur logo could fool visitors into thinking that it is part of the *Godzilla* empire.

Toho's warning to the blogger read: "Please be advised that your use of the 'Godzilla' mark constitutes a trademark infringement and confuses consumers and the public into believing that your 'Godzilla' character originates from Toho, which it does not."

In reality, the dinosaur character used on the site's logo looks more like Albert Steptoe than Godzilla. The blog's owner, Davezilla, intends to fight his case all the way, explaining "I certainly appreciate all the advice everyone is giving me, from lawyers to bloggers. I feel I have a solid ground now to kick their butts."

You can register your support for Dave (or Godzilla) by visiting the blog at **www.davezilla.com**.

Global blocking

NET USERS UNITE TO CREATE WORLD'S LARGEST DIGITAL SCULPTURE

NET USERS ACROSS the globe are joining together in an effort to build the world's first digital sculpture on the Web.

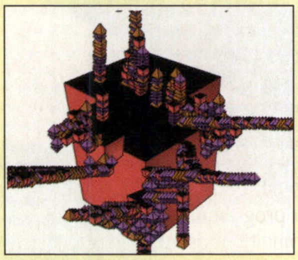
The Iconobloc structure continues to grow at an amazing pace, with thousands of digital 'sculptors' from over 50 countries adding their own 'bloc' to the work of art. The unique project invites everyone to take part by selecting from a choice of blocs and registering them.

The blocs are then joined together in Flash format on the site, for anyone to view. The 'body' is in constant contact with its creator by email, allowing all participants to have an input into the look and feel of the sculpture.

"Once created, the Iconobloc starts communicating with its sculptor via email, asking for advice and opinions on a wide range of subjects," explains Ben Wheatley of Iconobloc creators, Thunk! Communications.

"Anyone who creates an Iconobloc and doesn't nurture a relationship with it, or doesn't respond to its needs, will find their creation gets adopted by a fellow sculptor."

So if you fancy yourself as the Twenty First Century's answer to Rodin, pop along to **www.iconobloc.com** and stick your bloc on.



Feeling lonely? You can always build a companion out of blocs

CEOs help homeless

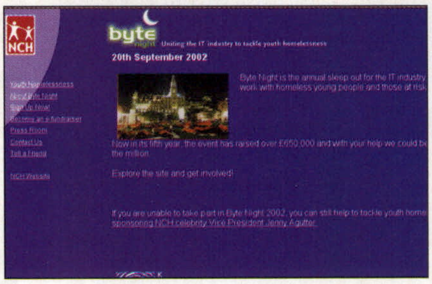
DOT COM BIGWIGS ROUGH IT FOR CHARITY

EXECUTIVES FROM TOP Net firms are getting ready to swap posh coffee and swivel chairs for Tenant's Super and cardboard boxes to spend a night sleeping rough.

It's nothing to do with a downturn in the dotcom industry, though; the bigwigs are merely doing their bit to help homeless kids. The annual 'Byte Night' event is being staged by the NCH and will see over 100 senior IT directors and executives give up their bed to sleep rough in London's Finsbury Square.

The participants in the fund raiser include actress and NCH Vice President, Jenny Agutter; IBM Vice President Steven Murdoch and Director of Business Development of Cisco Systems, Phil Smith. The event is now in its fifth year and so far has raised more than £650,000 to support NCH's work with homeless youngsters and careleavers.

David Dorey, Director of Web hosting firm, Xsession (**www.xsession.com**) is one of the volunteers give up his bed for the night. He's said: "All children and young people have great potential, however difficult their circumstances, and the NCH can help to release this by offering them diverse, innovative and responsive services, and by campaigning for change."



Uniting the IT industry to tackle youth homelessness

20th September 2002

Byte Night is the annual sleep out for the IT industry
work with homeless young people and those at risk

Now in its fifth year, the event has raised over £650,000 and with your help we could be
the million

Explore the site and get involved!

If you are unable to take part in Byte Night 2002, you can still help to tackle youth home
sponsoring NCH celebrity Vice President Jenny Agutter

Net executives are pledging their support for the NCH by sleeping rough. You can do it by visiting ***www.bytenight.org.uk***

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iCandy

Your guide to the latest and greatest objects of desire

Cintiq 18SX
interactive pen display
WACOM

Wacom wonder

Proving that the pen is mightier than the mouse, this bleeding edge graphics tablet claims to be more natural and ergonomic than any of your run-of-the-mill input devices. The device allows you to work directly with a pen on the rather tasty 18-inch full colour display. No matter what software you're using, Cintiq allows you to effortlessly rustle up designs, presentations, animations and illustrations using its touch-sensitive stylus.

Product: WACOM Cintiq 18SX
URL: www.wacom-europe.com
Telephone: N/A
£1,526

Handheld hero

Allowing you to access the Net from wherever you roam, this sexy full-colour wireless digital assistant from HP is the ideal toy for the upwardly mobile executive. With support for multimedia messaging, Internet audio downloads and video playback, the Jornada is sure to be a hit with the next generation of poseurs.

Product: HP Jornada 928 WDA
URL: www.hp.com
Telephone: 0870 241 3625
£390

NOKIA
Menu
Options
Exit

Snap happy

SMS is exceptionally popular, yet the whole text messaging craze is about to get even crazier. Nokia's latest handset is designed to hail a new era in mobile technology, incorporating a digital camera, Multimedia Messaging (MMS) capabilities and a full colour display. As well as allowing you to capture and share candid images with pals, the device boasts GPRS and HSCSD connections along with WAP, wireless and Bluetooth connectivity.

Product: Nokia 7650
URL: www.nokia.co.uk
Telephone: 08700 555 777
£ DEPENDS ON TARIFF

SanDisk
128
cruzer

Cruzer control

Traditionally, pockets are only useful for carting around small change, keys and bits of tissue. Now, however, you can shove your images, songs and data in your pocket thanks to this tiny portable storage device. The three-inch long Cruzer accepts flash memory cards and can be used to ferry your files between the home, office or any other location. What's more, the all-in-one unit requires no power supply as it plugs directly into a standard USB port.

Product: SanDisk Cruzer
URL: www.sandisk.com
Telephone: N/A
£32

Feel the G's

Apple has thrown down the guantlet to PC makers with the release of its new turbo-charged Power Mac G4. The rather fetching machine boasts dual processors at either 867MHz, 1GHz or 1.25GHz, adding a whopping 500 MHz to the previous generation of G4s. The beefed up processor speed gets an extra kick through the Power Mac's advanced cache memory architecture which provides super fast, dedicated memory with enhanced throughput.

Product: Apple Power Mac G4
URL: www.apple.com/uk
Telephone: 0800 039 1010

£1,349

Easy does it

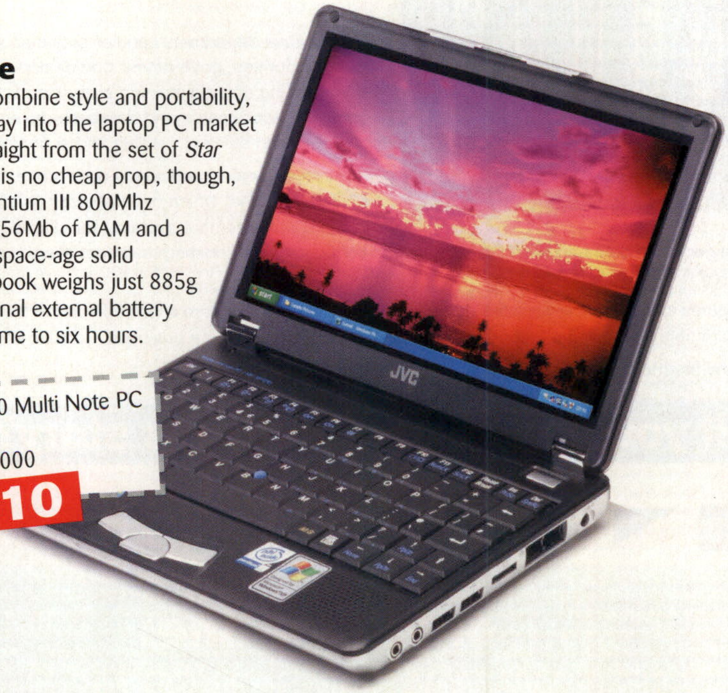
Developing pictures at home is much more civilised thanks to the arrival of the Kodak EasyShare CX4230. The model comes complete with the brand-new EasyShare software package for on-camera print tagging. Once the 2.0 MegaPixel CX4230 is docked and the images transferred, the software automatically opens up the print screen for printing straight away.

Product: Kodak EasyShare CX4230
URL: www.kodak.co.uk
Telephone: 01422 261122

£199

Take note

Designed to combine style and portability, JVC's latest foray into the laptop PC market looks like it's come straight from the set of *Star Trek*. The MP-XP7210 is no cheap prop, though, and packs a mobile Pentium III 800Mhz processor along with 256Mb of RAM and a 30Gb hard drive. The space-age solid magnesium alloy notebook weighs just 885g and features an additional external battery that triples operation time to six hours.



Product: JVC MP-XP7210 Multi Note PC
URL: www.jvc.co.uk
Telephone: 0870 330 5000

£1,410

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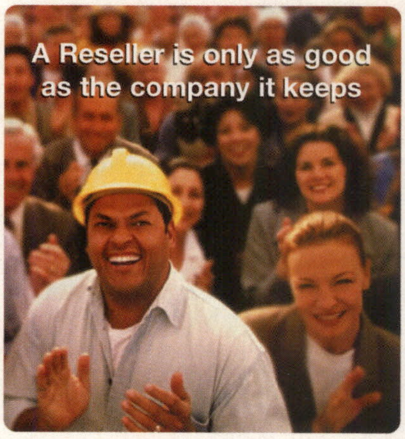
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success story #75

tms media
-welcome to tms
profile
graphics
internet
copywriting
publicity
contact

tms media

TMS Media, of Great Yarmouth, is a busy creative agency that provides graphic design, PR & internet services to its broad range of clients

"Our internet department handles projects for large and small companies, local authorities, government bodies and representative organisations. So designing and maintaining everything from simple showcase sites to complex e-commerce and database-driven sites makes it essential for us to have an efficient, reliable and economical hosting service.

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The simple and fast set-up procedures and incredibly versatile individual Virtual Control Panels are a valuable part of the WebFusion hosting service, allowing our designers and programmers the freedom to focus on the most important side of our business – looking after our clients."

Steve Scott, MD TMS Mediawww.tmsmedia.co.uk

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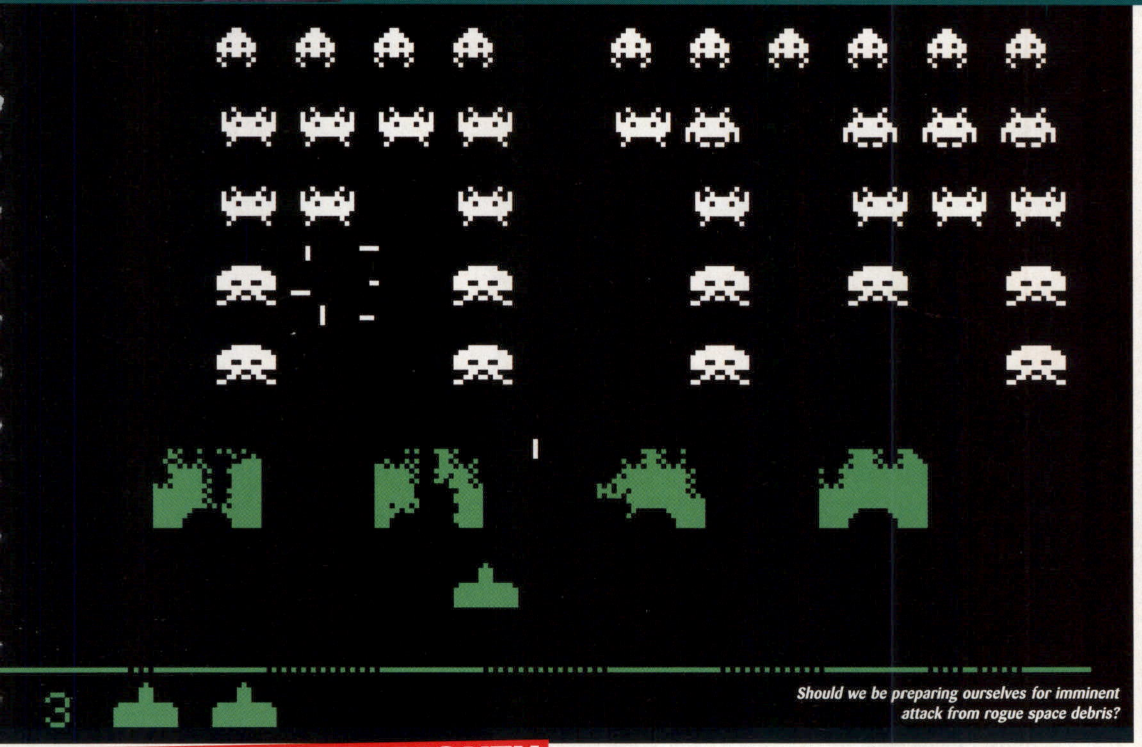


Should we be preparing ourselves for imminent attack from rogue space debris?

LETTER OF THE MONTH

Space Invaders

IN REGARD TO the 'They're lying to us' feature (issue 69) I have something to add. The high velocity impact from space debris must be the most serious hazard we humans have ever had to deal with. I have spent 14 years trying to get my voice heard on this matter. Whether it is of the natural or unnatural kind, every day our world suffers a continual bombardment from some form of space debris.

Recall the fires at Windsor Castle or Buckingham Palace. When any fire incident occurs, the authorities will usually put it down to an accident or even arson. The latter usually results in some poor soul suffering a very long prison sentence, or in the USA, the death sentence, without any chance of proving his or her innocence and little sympathy from the brainwashed general public.

If a larger piece of space debris impacts our Earth, the effect can appear to be an explosion. Following any such heavy impact, the wheels of deceit by the authorities will immediately start to turn and media education bulletins will take immediate action. When these heavy impacts take place, as we continually see in Israel or India or Northern Ireland, the blame is usually targeted at terrorism.

Sometimes after any such incident there will even be a telephone claim of responsibility by some so-called terrorist group allowing the authorities to screw the lid even tighter on the box containing the truth.

There are even occasions when the authorities have an idea when space debris is expected to impact in a particular area. An example of this is Iraq and the present day situation where we have the USA threatening a near future attack in order to conceal the fact that space debris impacts are imminent.

It is also interesting to note that in many parts of the world, space debris impacts have served to benefit certain countries. This is clearly evident when a country has suffered a bombardment from space debris. The resulting sparked off conflict or so-called war has enabled a more favourable change in political power over the particular country.

Finally, if you throw this letter in you trash bin, or belittle it etc without making the effort to investigate, then you are helping to send more and more unsuspecting people to prison or death.

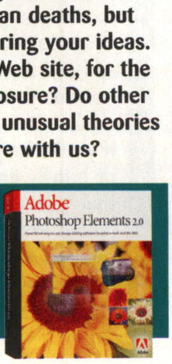
John Hall

Our 'They're lying to us' feature has certainly sparked a fair deal of interest. Granted, we weren't actually introducing the possibility that falling space junk is at the root of most human deaths, but thank you for sharing your ideas. Why not make a Web site, for the best possible exposure? Do other readers have any unusual theories they'd like to share with us?

WIN A PRIZE

WHAT? IT'S NOT enough just to get your name in our fine tome, making you the envy of your friends and family? You want a prize as well? Okay, how's about the best graphics package currently on the go then?

Photoshop Elements 2 is so new that we haven't even had a chance to review it yet, but you can win a copy of Adobe's fine graphics editor, worth around £88, if yours is selected as our 'Letter of the Month'. Find out more on Photoshop Elements 2 by going to **www.adobe.com**, or dialling **020 8606 4001**.



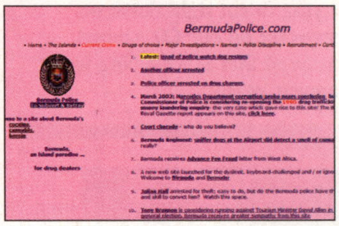
Shout it out

I found your 'Revenge is sweet' article in issue 70 very interesting, with many good points and much to think about – please pass my thanks to Kieren McCarthy. Maintaining a 'protest' site such as **www.bermuda.org.uk** aka **www.bermudapolice.com** is also therapeutic, and it's surprising how the ability to vent frustrations and receive support from many like-minded individuals keeps one sane. Having a sense of humour also helps… I am surprised just how many people visit and send their CV for the various jobs posted!

Would you risk an article on the various police related sites out there – pro and anti?

P Swift

Protest sites are a great way of venting your spleen on a corporate enemy, and your Bermuda Police site is a particularly informative and detailed one. As for police sites, we tend to steer clear of writing about the boys in blue, lest they come round and arrest us in the middle of the night…



Discover what the Old Bill get up to in Bermuda, thanks to this excellent protest site

Stop surfing

Regarding the IE plug-ins in page 57 of issue 70 of August 2002 of *Practical Internet*, I liked the description of the features offered by StartSurfing 1.0, so I decided to pop over to their Web site and read their privacy statement. I found some startling facts about the information they collect from their users. Here's an example: "We may collect information about your use of the service, the Web sites and Web pages you view, the actions you take during your visit to a Web page, the length of your visit to Web sites and Web pages, the IP address of the computer you are using, the URL of the Web site that you came from, and the browser version that you are using to access our site."

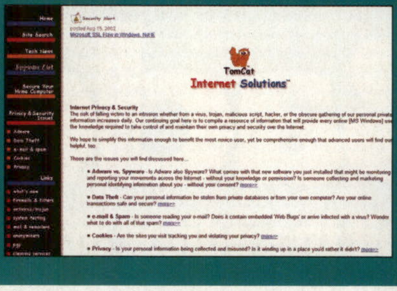
➔

Reader's tip ↘↘

→ The cat in the hat

From what I can tell, all the readers of your magazine detest spyware, and for a very good reason. I've installed AdAware and stuff on my machine, but my favourite way of avoiding spyware completely is to go to the TomCat site at **www.tom-cat.com**. It's got a weird name, but this is the best place on the Web to go for a full listing of all the programs that contain hidden elements of spyware.

Andy McCulloch



posted Aug 15, 2002
Microsoft, SSL Flaw in Windows, Not IE

Internet Privacy & Security
The risk of falling victim to an intrusion whether from a virus, trojan, malicious script, hacker, or the obscure gathering of our personal private information increases daily. Our continuing goal here is to compile a resource of information that will provide every online [MS Windows] user the knowledge required to take control of and maintain their own privacy and security over the Internet.

We hope to simplify this information enough to benefit the most novice user, yet be comprehensive enough that advanced users will find our helpful, too.

These are the issues you will find discussed here...

- **Adware vs. Spyware** - Is Adware also Spyware? What comes with that new software you just installed that might be monitoring and reporting your movements across the Internet - without your knowledge or permission? Is someone collecting and marketing personal identifying information about you - without your consent? more>>
- **Data Theft** - Can your personal information be stolen from private databases or from your own computer? Are your online transactions safe and secure? more>>
- **e-mail & Spam** - Is someone reading your e-mail? Does it contain embedded 'Web Bugs' or arrive infected with a virus? Wonder what to do with all of that spam? more>>
- **Cookies** - Are the sites you visit tracking you and violating your privacy? more>>
- **Privacy** - Is your personal information being collected and misused? Is it winding up in a place you'd rather it didn't? more>>

Your letters

→ I think you will agree that this is quite intrusive, and equates to a clear example of spyware. I treat the word 'may' in their description as 'will'. I would also suggest that what they later describe as 'Web beacons', also known as 'clear gif technology' or 'action tags', might assist in delivering cookies. Is this another way of saying that they will install Web bugs on your PC ?

When suggesting good-sounding software in your magazine, you may consider including a note to warn of spyware in some titles as the privacy statement in this case suggests. At least in that way, readers can make an informed decision whether or not to load software from the magazine's accompanying CD.

I am an avid reader of your magazine, though, and find your articles of great interest. Keep up the good work.

Nigel

Thanks for the warning, Nigel. We're quite miffed here, as StartSurfing was one of our favourite browser add-ons. We're trying to cut right down on spyware on our CD, so rest assured that StartSurfing won't appear again.

Tutorials
IE plug-ins
10 great Internet Explorer plug-ins

It seems some of the plug-ins we recommended are touched by the hand of spyware

DVD confusion

Having just embarked on the difficult task of trying to find a DVD writer that would do what it claims, I find that I am surrounded by complete confusion.

There are four DVD formats that use discs that look identical to your everyday CD as well as the physically incompatible DVD-RAM formats. Two of these are 'rewritable' – namely DVD-RW and DVD+RW – and two 'write once' – DVD-R and the most recently introduced DVD+R. With DVD discs ranging from £1 up to £15 apiece, imagine my dilemma when asking sales assistants about which ones were compatible with which DVD writers and which would play on my home player. None of them knew the answer and most hadn't a clue what I was talking about.

I then picked up issue 70 of *Practical Internet*, and noticed that you guys are suffering from the same problems – the Memorex DVD recorder displayed on p16 actually records DVD+RW and not DVD-R/DVD-RW.

Steve Congrave

The 'format wars' regarding recordable DVD is ridiculous, and it's difficult to keep on top of what is going on from day to day. Like you, we'd like to see one clear format emerge, so that you know exactly what to buy when you pop into the high street store. Until that time, it's safe to assume that the main loser while the formats battle it out is the humble consumer.

Keep your distance

If any readers are considering establishing an online shop, I suggest they carefully study the distance selling regulations first. Compared with normal trading regulations, these are very unfair to the supplier.

We, The Attic Leather Goods, (www.leathergoods-online.co.uk) have been established for many years and are currently in the

Leather Goods
leather handbags
leather back packs
leather purses and purse notecases
leather notecases, wallets and billfolds
Leather Goods
Go shopping
Look

www.leathergoods-online.co.uk

Leather Goods online
The internet shop of
The Attic Leather Goods..Padstow..Cornwall..UK

Welcome

The tightrope of online buyer-seller satisfaction is precarious, as Attic Leather Goods have found out

process of trying to obtain a 'Which Web Trader' certificate.

The problem we have is that if a customer decides not to retain the goods for any reason, the supplier must provide a refund within seven days and then give the customer up to 30 days to return the goods still in a sellable quality. Of course, if the customer does not return the goods or they come back in a used condition, then it's the seller's loss.

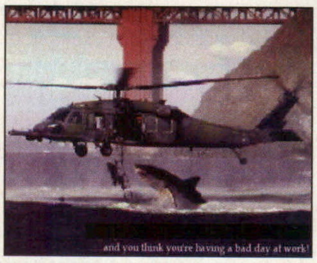
If this government is really serious about getting small businesses online, they'd better get their act together. I must be joking – has any government ever done that?!

Terry Butcher

The government seems to be trying to find its feet in terms of eCommerce laws. In a way, you can understand trying to give buyers the same protection that their offline counterparts have always enjoyed, but this leaves sellers in a pickle. Governments are probably so keen to get people buying online that they'll give them every benefit possible. Even then, many buyers have lost out on online purchases, and see the argument from the opposite side.

Attachment of the month

WE'VE ALL BEMOANED our miserable existence, and the hassle of having to get up every morning to go into the office. But take a look at this gem from Arthur Ford, which shows how horrible your job could be…



Just when you thought it was safe to go back into the water…

If you've received a funny or quirky email attachment that you'd like to share with fellow *Practical Internet* readers, send it to pi@paragon.co.uk with the subject header 'Attachment of the month'. We'll print the best each month, for as long as we can get away with it…

Snippets

You're great!

I found your recent articles based on '10 Simple Ways to Boost Your Profits' and 'Be a Web Mastermind' from the August issue great reads with some excellent advice. The idea that visitors are guests to your site and should be treated as such gave me a new understanding. I am confident that this will result in further improvements to my site (**www.shopperfect.co.uk**).

Gareth Plummer

Thanks very much, Gareth. We hope your site goes from strength to strength. Keep piling on those bargains.

ShopPerfect.co.uk
Entertainment Charts & Shopping Ideas
Latest Special Offers
Children
The Amazing Maurice and His Educated Rodents - Terry Pratchett
Entertainment
Training Day - DVD

Customers at Gareth's site are guaranteed a warm welcome

Billy Ray Virus

I've been hearing from a couple of people about the getting viruses disguised as MP3 files, which when activated starts deleted real MP3 files instead. Is the music industry behind this?

Alex Wong

To be honest, Alex, this sounds like the work of scurrilous hackers, and not music industry bosses. They're only targeting MP3s because this is the most popular file format.

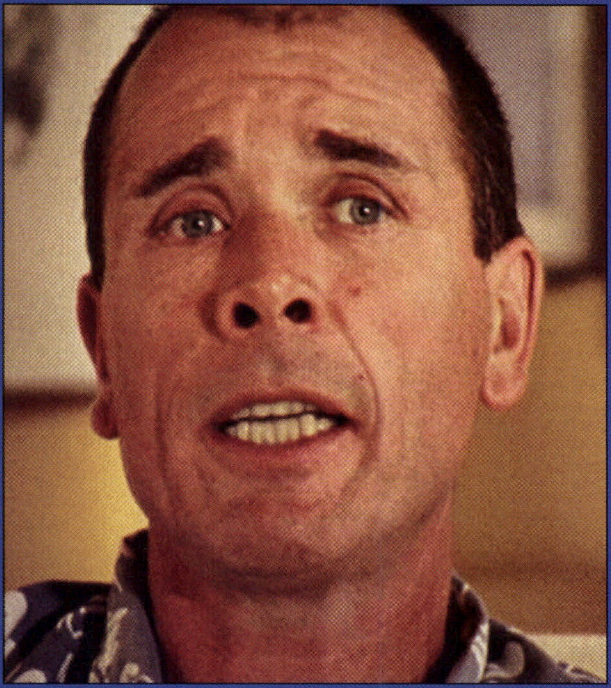
Master and servant

You ran a piece last month on hosting a Web site from your PC. It's a fair idea, but I can't imagine why anybody would want to. Surely you're better off just uploading it?

Dave Monk

We take your point about being online 24/7, but the benefits are that you can make changes any time you want.

BTopenworld LOOK FORWARD



Anthony Docherty, BT Openworld Anytime customer.

"It's £15.99. I mean, what's that, 50p a day?"

(Now BT Openworld Anytime internet access is just £9.99 for the first month.)

Connect to the internet with BT Openworld Anytime for just £15.99 a month with no internet call charges, so you won't have to worry about the phone bill (restrictions apply). Sign up before November 10th 2002 and your first month will cost you just £9.99.

Call 0800 328 4992 or visit www.btopenworld.com/press

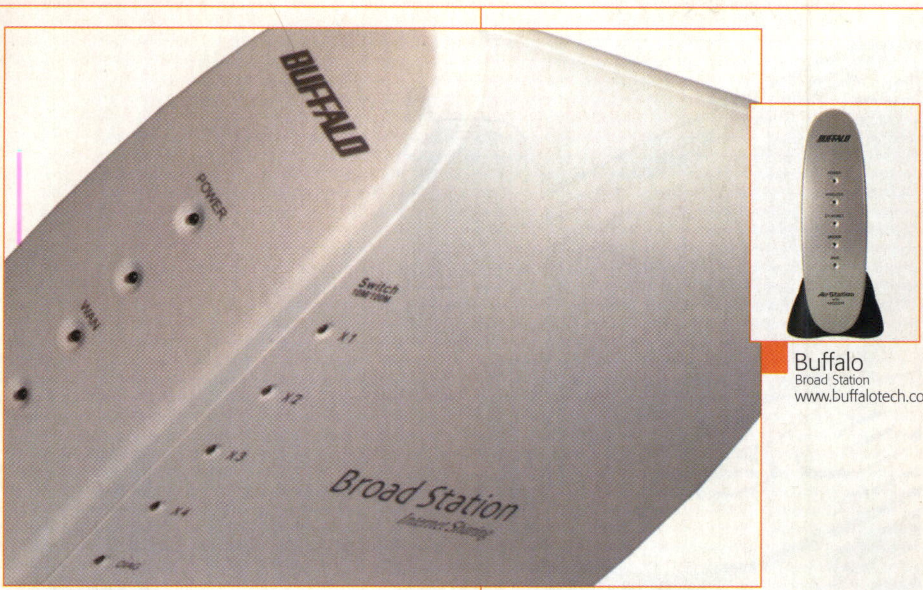
THIS OFFER IS NOT AVAILABLE TO EXISTING BT OPENWORLD CUSTOMERS AS AT 2ND SEPT 2002. OFFER LIMITED TO ONE CALENDAR MONTH DISCOUNTED PERIOD PER HOUSEHOLD. PAYMENT MUST BE MADE BY CREDIT CARD (VISA/VISA DELTA OR MASTERCARD). REQUIRES A BT LINE. ONLINE SESSION LIMITATIONS APPLY. SEE OUR TERMS AND CONDITIONS. BT OPENWORLD AND THE BT OPENWORLD ORB ARE TRADE MARKS OF BRITISH TELECOMMUNICATIONS PLC.

14:44
Windows Media
Select Tools
xda
Pocket PC
O2

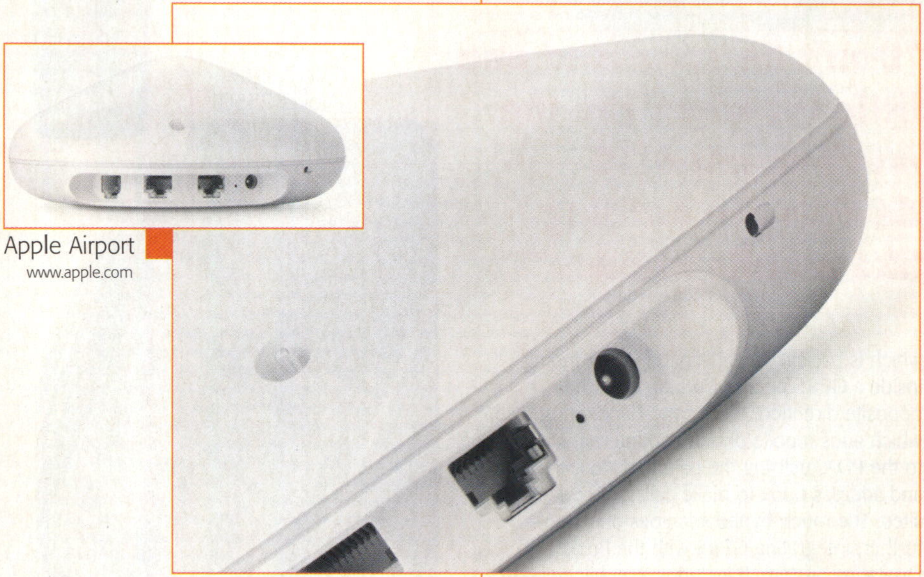
THE FUTURE STARTS HERE!

A WHOLE RANGE OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES ARE SET TO TRANSFORM THE NET. **NICK SWEENEY** EXPLAINS WHY THE FUTURE'S NEVER BEEN BRIGHTER

With Internet-enabled PCs now as common in people's homes as satellite dishes or DVD players, and with broadband access finally becoming a reality for much of the country, you might think that things will settle down just a little in the world of new technology. After all, it's been a pretty amazing decade since the first graphical Web browser appeared, and an even crazier last few years, what with the dotcom boom and bust, accompanied by the inexorable rise of mobile phones. But don't get comfortable just yet – things are only just starting to get interesting. The rapid convergence of mobile and Internet technology in the next couple of years is likely to make the Net a seamless part of our daily lives, and no longer a separate world where 'people go online'. Soon we won't need to go anywhere: instead, the Net will be right beside us, 'right here, right now', whenever we need it.



Buffalo
Broad Station
www.buffalotech.com



Apple Airport
www.apple.com

Satellite broadband

WITH ALL THE talk of ADSL, and the expansion of cable networks across the country, one broadband technology tends to get overlooked – which is strange, as it may represent the future of high-speed Internet access. Satellite technology has advanced rapidly in recent years, mainly in the USA, since 70 per cent of the US land mass has no access to ground-based broadband. These services are making their way across the pond, spurred on by competition between Britain's satellite providers. This means that small-scale roll-outs are already taking place in regions such as the Scottish Highlands.

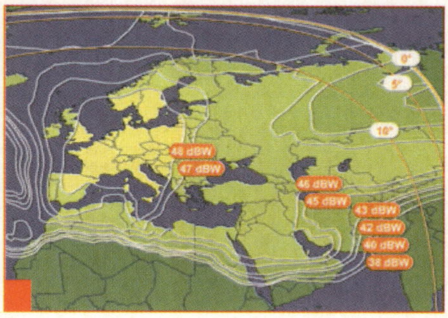
There are problems with satellite access, though. It's still too expensive for all but business users, requiring large dishes and complex modems. Even the cheapest packages are more expensive than cable or ADSL.

In coming years, we're likely to see community broadband networks sharing satellite in the way that an office shares its leased line, combined with wireless access to make the satellite connection available across a local area.

Wireless **broadband**

WIRELESS INTERNET HAS been around for many years, but until recently, wireless access points such as the AirPort were treated as expensive 'geek toys'. Now, though, wireless stations are no longer curiosities, but a part of any self-respecting techie's setup, and 'Wi-Fi' networks are beginning to flourish. In a way, it's the opposite of satellite broadband – instead of one satellite beaming signals to users, Wi-Fi thrives when lots of users set up 'nodes' and share their Net access.

You'd expect ISPs to set up their own wireless networks, using something akin to mobile phone masts, but they've been surprisingly slow on the uptake. Instead, we're seeing companies like Starbucks roll out wireless access on a pay-to-use basis, so people across the USA can get online while sipping their frothy coffees. And it's hard to see the big ISPs catching up with the community of 'guerilla wireless' networkers found at sites like Consume.net, who make and map out publicly-available wireless nodes, and use Pringle-can aerials to extend the range of the transmissions.



Wireless **networking**

THE BASIS OF Wi-Fi Internet is the 'wireless access point' – a box of tricks which plugs into a modem and does away with the need for a cable connection to your PC. With two or more PCs becoming increasingly common in households, and with broadband use rising rapidly, the emphasis is shifting from simply getting online towards ensuring that everyone gets online at once. Combine a wireless router with a wireless network card for each PC, and you can do that, as well as do away with cables for good.

There are two main benefits to a wireless home network, beyond not having to snake cables under the carpet. First of all, installing a wireless router is by far the easiest way to share an Internet connection between the computers in a household – you don't need a PC turned on all the time, but if you do, you can use it to handle incoming email and Web caching. Secondly, you can share files within a local network, accessing shared drives as if they were on your own PC. The only downside to wireless home networking is the need to ensure that your precious files and bandwidth are kept safe from hackers. In the future, we'll all need to keep our networks as secure as our homes, with firewalls as our deadlocks and burglar alarms.

Expert opinion

Danny O'Brien
Co-editor, NTK.net
Personal Weblog at **www.oblomovka.com**

“When I look to the future, I get double vision. If I squint hard, I can see the rose-tinted bits – the competitive roll-out of new technology on razor thin profits: Wi-Fi cards at sub-£30 prices, decent free software, bandwidth too cheap to meter. But if I nod for a moment, I get the other angle: a world where personal data is horse-traded behind your back – but if you try to whistle-blow some corporation, your ISP will shut you down. Where media companies spend billions fighting pirates who'd never buy their products anyway, and pass the cost on to their customers. And where everyone is a monopoly – and has the world's law on their side.”

→

PDAs

xda
www.o2.com

WHILE WIRELESS INTERNET, from satellite broadband to home networking, represents an important *evolution* in the way we've grown used to getting online – that is, sitting in front of a monitor, tapping on a keyboard – the *revolution* is set to take place with the full integration of mobile technology and the Net. It won't be long before plugging a mobile phone into a laptop, or attaching a bulky modem to your PDA – the most common ways to get online while on the move – seem as dated as the Pony Express and the carrier pigeon.

Right now, it's fair to say that we've reached the second generation of the PDA, in which the original Palms and Pocket PCs, which served primarily as portable address books and notepads, have given way to a new breed of multimedia devices. Equipped with buckets of memory, colour screens, MP3 players, and even the capacity to take photos, these devices include the Sony Clié and Compaq iPaq. We're also seeing the convergence of digital devices, often through shared storage media, so that you can use your PDA to store images from your digital camera simply by transferring a SmartMemory card. Convergence also takes some odd but fascinating forms: the Apple iPod, ostensibly just a high-capacity MP3 player, can already serve as a basic PDA, carrying address book and calendar data.

What's the **buzz?**

The biggest buzz, though, surrounds what's known as 2.5-generation devices, combining the multimedia capabilities of second-generation PDAs with mobile phone and Internet access, normally using the GPRS protocol – which allows for always-on connectivity. We're already seeing mobiles with MP3 players, FM radios or basic digital cameras, such as the Nokia 7650, which is basically an advanced PDA running inside a GPRS phone. Coming from the opposite direction, there's the Handspring Treo, which adds mobile phone and Internet capacity to the PDA, utilising the palmtop's touch-screen and address book to make calls or browse Web sites. The much-hyped xda goes one step further, integrating GPRS with the Pocket PC Operating System. It includes a mobile version of Microsoft Office, music player, email client and Web browser, all of which you can use while you're on the phone. You can also install third-party apps to expand its PDA functionality.

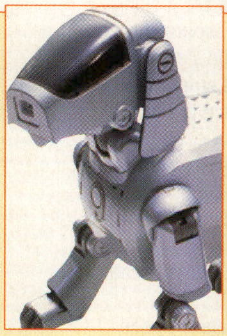
Then there's the Pogo, which looks more like something from *The Jetsons* than a phone or PDA. A 'thin-client' device, drawing functionality from its GPRS connection to a central server, it uses Flash menus and compressed HTML content to provide something close to the promises of WAP, with none of the crushing disappointment.

"Don't be surprised one little bit when the the much-mooted 3G devices are nothing like mobile phones"

www.nokia.com
Nokia 7550

Will these devices end up in everyone's pocket? It's hard to say – the high cost works against them right now, and you can't help but feel that better things are not too far away. What's certain is that the radical design and convergent technology of this hardware will prepare the way for 3G devices when they finally arrive. In fact, don't be surprised one little bit when the much-mooted 3G devices are nothing like the mobile phones we've been using for years.

Back to **the future**



EVERY NOW AND again, you have to take a punt on what the future will hold, and we did just that way back in Issue 36. The predictions we made make for slightly uncomfortable reading, considering most of them were completely wrong.

First up, and remember this is 1999, we revelled in the wonder of WAP, talking about how this "slimmed down version of the Web" would change our working lives." As predictions go, this is high on the list of failures.

Interestingly, our notions of the home of the future have hardly changed at all in the last three years. Back then, we were already heralding the era of connected washing machines and light sockets. Now, we've just got to sit back and wait on the technology happening.

Bizarrely, the Sony AIBO robot dog also featured in our technological version of Mystic Meg. This strange concept, which took the virtual pet syndrome that step further, died a death mainly because a robot dog doesn't quite have the same warmth and friendliness as its natural equivalent. And it doesn't get the paper for you, either.

And, just to rub salt into the wounds, we predicted that voice recognition software would really come to the fore in the early years of the new millennium. Alas, these notions of *Star Trek* voice commands have yet to materialise. Voice recognition might have a future, but it needs to progress to something that is useable before people will embrace it properly, and that looks like being a long, long way off.

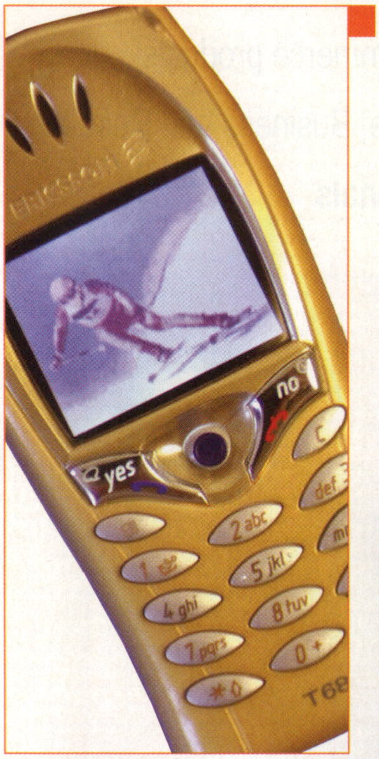
Bluetooth

MOST NEW MOBILE phones are Bluetooth-enabled, but you'd be excused for not knowing what that means. The **www.bluetooth.com** Web site doesn't really give much away, either. In essence, it's a communications protocol for voice and data transmission between devices, built because the current alternatives represent two extremes. Wi-Fi Internet is a complex protocol with lots of overheads, while infra-red, used by mobile phones and PDAs, is slow, clunky, and better left to your TV remote control. Bluetooth offers a happy medium – a robust, low-power radio protocol with a range of around 10 metres and the potential to connect an array of devices.

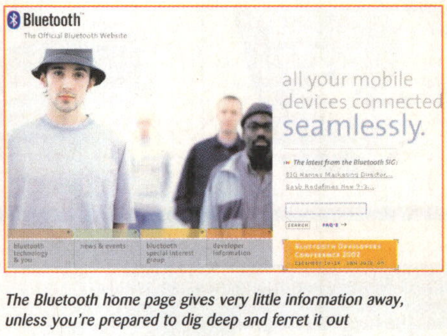
First of all, Bluetooth will find a welcome place in the home: it's capable of connecting common peripherals like keyboards, mice and cordless phones. It's also robust enough to ensure that there's no interference between gizmos. In short, it promises an end to the cat's cradle of cables normally found in the vicinity of any PC.

Where Bluetooth gets interesting, though, is in mobile use. While the protocol's obvious use is in transferring data between phones, laptops and PDAs, its 10-metre range means you can set up static 'hotspots' which communicate with nearby Bluetooth-compatible devices. The hyped plan to send money-off coupons to mobile phones when people walk past shops shows Bluetooth at work. There's the potential to do much more, though, like providing useful, location-specific services in airports and railway stations.

Right now, Bluetooth devices are still thin on the ground, with 'hotspots' even thinner. The most prominent devices are mobile phones, such as the Sony Ericsson T68, or PDAs like the Compaq iPaq H3870, but you can also buy expansion kits for other peripherals.



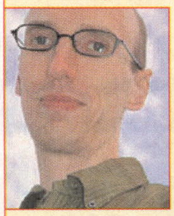
Ericsson T68
www.ericsson.com


Bluetooth
The Official Bluetooth Website
all your mobile devices connected seamlessly.
The latest from the Bluetooth SIG:
SEARCH
FAQ'S
bluetooth technology & you
news & events
bluetooth special interest group
developer information

The Bluetooth home page gives very little information away, unless you're prepared to dig deep and ferret it out

Expert opinion

Phil Gyford
Keeper of the futurology Weblog
www.overgen.com



> The big changes to the Net may be due to changes in society, rather than new technologies. Before long, the Western world will be a tiny part of the Internet's population. This could create more discrete networks that rarely communicate. However, widespread use of English and better translation software could break down these barriers and make the Internet a more varied and eye-opening place – more like the real world. Things will get interesting as children grow up who have never experienced a world without the Internet. They might have very different ideas about what the Internet can do and how it should be run.

"3G will mean no more per-minute charges for calls. Always-on means always-on…"

3G **mobile**

IT'S BEEN CELEBRATED, it's been derided; it's been ready to go, it's been delayed – the only thing we're sure of with 3G is that licences were massively expensive, and that phone companies will need to make money fast. That means offering something pretty special to a sceptical market already saturated with mobile phones and loathe to upgrade on the kind of promises that preceded the WAP fiasco.

Well, it's likely that 3G will impress, but whether it'll sell is another thing entirely. The network is already up and running in Japan, the place where funky mobiles are de rigueur: the FOMA SH2101V, with its clamshell case and camera, looks set to be hugely successful. There have also been trials much closer to home, and UK providers are running field trials in preparation for a launch very soon. Reports suggest that early teething troubles are mostly sorted, though early adopters may suffer drop-outs until the last of the access points is in place next year.

The reason 3G changes everything isn't just that the phones are the funkiest, most feature-packed ever, combining the best of PDAs with a reworking of mobile communication. The change is in the network: no more per-minute charges for calls or data services. Always-on means always-on; it also means that mobile operators will be forced to rethink their revenue model. You'll have to pay a monthly rental fee to use the network, like current mobile contracts, but other charges will be based on the services you use, rather than the time you spend on them. What will those services be? The most publicised is access to video clips from the Premiership, so you can see goals being scored within seconds. But that's the tip of the iceberg. You'll also have mobile games, videoconferencing and music downloads.

Nokia 7210
www.nokia.com

→

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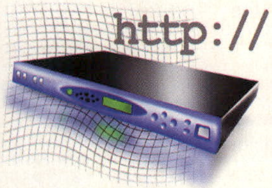

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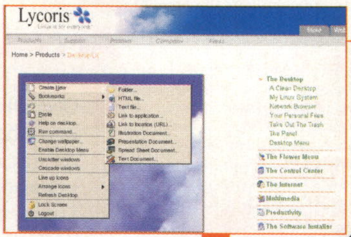
Open source

THE IDEA OF offering a program's 'source code' (the recipe for its executable version) only really went mainstream with the rise of Linux in the mid 90s, accompanied by the success of sites such as Slashdot.org and the launch of high-profile projects such as Mozilla. And yet, 'freeing the software' is hardly a new phenomenon, stretching back to the pioneering work of Richard M. Stallman as part of the GNU Project in the 1980s. Without those efforts, and without the philosophy that you only make code freely available under condition that improvements are made public as well, Linux would have been little more than a plaything.


Lycoris
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Create New
Bookmarks
Paste
Help on desktop
Run command...
Change wallpaper...
Enable Desktop Menu
Unclutter windows
Cascade windows
Line up Icons
Arrange Icons
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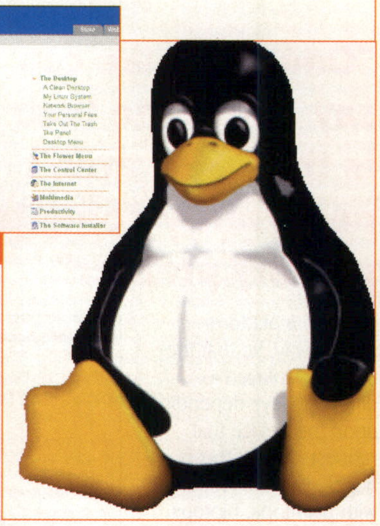
Logout
Folder...
HTML file...
Text file...
Link to application...
Link to location (URL)...
Illustration Document...
Presentation Document...
Spread Sheet Document...
Text Document...
The Desktop
A Clean Desktop
My Linux System
Network Browser
Your Personal Files
Take Out The Trash
The Panel
Desktop Menu
The Flower Menu
The Control Center
The Internet
Multimedia
Productivity
The Software Installer



Red hat Linux

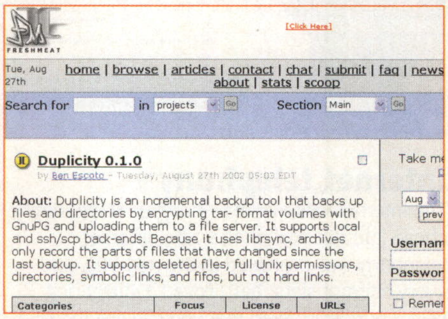
http://linux.com

The early hype over the potential of open source, built bizarrely upon the soaring share prices of various Linux-based companies at the height of the dot-com boom, has turned into a more serious assessment of what the philosophy has to offer. The desktop breakthrough hasn't come quite yet for Linux, though Lindows or Lycoris may change that; instead, it's the desktop software essentials that have come through. The 1.0 versions of Mozilla (**www.mozilla.org**) and OpenOffice (**www.openoffice.org**) haven't stopped these programs' development processes, and both are showing innovations in browsing the Web or handling documents. But open source code underpins the real breakthrough OS of recent years – Apple's Mac OS X, with its 'Darwin' core based on the FreeBSD (**www.freebsd.org**) Operating System.

At the heart **of the Web**

Open source software remains at the heart of the Net's core, as Apache holds off Microsoft's IIS Web server, and BIND dominates domain name servers. It also powers many complex, dynamically-driven Web sites, for instance Slashdot (**www.slashdot.org**) and Plastic (**www.plastic.com**), through the combination of scripting languages like PHP (**www.php.net**) and databases like MySQL (**www.mysql.com**).

But most of all, free and open source software has shown itself to be especially good at handling 'glueware' – the hundreds and thousands of programs, seen on sites such as Freshmeat (**www.freshmeat.net**) that bind together disparate services and functions. That means it underpins the attempts to connect up the networked world, whether it's Wi-Fi enthusiasts with tin-can antennae, Web loggers writing link-tracking tools, or home networkers running their own email servers.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Go
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☐ Remer
Categories
Focus
License
URLs

Tue, Aug 27th

Duplicity 0.1.0

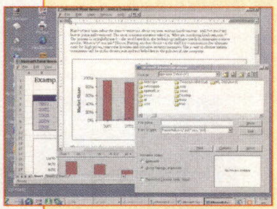
by Ben Escoto - Tuesday, August 27th 2002 05:03 EDT

About: Duplicity is an incremental backup tool that backs up files and directories by encrypting tar- format volumes with GnuPG and uploading them to a file server. It supports local and ssh/scp back-ends. Because it uses librsync, archives only record the parts of files that have changed since the last backup. It supports deleted files, full Unix permissions, directories, symbolic links, and fifos, but not hard links.

Gorge yourself on the latest and greatest open source software at Freshmeat (www.freshmeat.net)

Lindows is coming

ONE OF THE big sticking points with making Linux a credible Operating System is its incompatibility with Windows applications. Enter Lindows, which claims to combine Linux and Windows, by using the KDE window system and WINE compatibility layer. So, does Lindows do what it says on the tin? Actually, no.



While it guarantees compatibility with Office 2000, it is meant as a 'bridge' to transfer files to native Linux applications like OpenOffice. Other Windows programs aren't even guaranteed to start and, because they run as 'root', have the potential to damage your setup. In addition, all the software in Lindows is available cheaply or for free in existing Linux versions like Lycoris (**www.lycoris.com**). It's a classic piece of marketing from Michael Robertson, famous for doing just that with MP3.com.

Internet ownership

IT SEEMS AS if every innovation in online technology is swiftly countered by a corporate lawyer representing a club of billionaires who don't want their source of income to dry up. If you're a technology advocate, that's not paranoia, and it's not the politics of envy. Napster was crushed, Audiogalaxy strangled, other P2P networks sued and faced with laws which could allow record companies to hack into the PCs of ordinary users. And governments want to take over the running of the domain name system, the critical address book that assigns dot-com, dot-org and all other dot-somethings to Internet addresses.

Forgive the note of alarm, but Microsoft wants to embed chips into the next generation of PCs to ensure that you can't do anything it considers 'suspect'. (Be thankful it doesn't want to embed them into the back of your neck.) Record and film executives are lobbying the US Congress for laws that will cripple hardware such as video capture cards and CD burners. Thousands of non-profit Internet radio stations will be forced to close down (**www.saveInternetradio.org**) because of exorbitant licensing costs imposed by the US Library of Congress, in a deal that one executive freely admits was designed to squeeze out the little guys and allow the large anodyne broadcast networks to dominate the Web.

In short, your digital future – which comprises a lot of what we've discussed so far – is up for grabs. Corporations and governments fear what people can do with technology, because they've already seen it. With Napster and broadband, the genie came out of the bottle, and the supply of recorded music will never be the same again. Most Net users would happily pay a reasonable subscription for official downloads, but instead, companies have offered half-baked services and treated their customers as if they were criminals through laws such as the DMCA. Civil disobedience is set to break out in defence of technology, because, as law professor Lawrence Lessig (**www.lessig.org/freeculture**) puts it, "if you don't do something now, this freedom that you built, that you spend your life coding, will be taken away." The Creative Commons (**www.creativecommons.org**) is needed now more than ever.

Save Internet Radio.org

Vent your frustration at radio laws in the US at Save Internet Radio

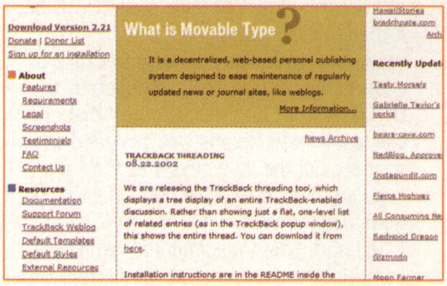
The new wave of **Web design**

BREATHE A SIGH of relief, as designing Web sites is going to get a whole lot easier. Cumbersome <TABLE> tags can finally be confined to the past – with Mozilla rendering Netscape 4 obsolete, there's no need for designers to hamstring their sites. Instead, you can now lay out pages with Cascading Style Sheets knowing that even text-only browsers are likely to see them as they were intended.

One thing we can say about the future of the Web is that sites aren't necessarily going to get that much prettier through advances in browser-based technology. If scalable vector graphics (SVG) ever become more widely adopted, they'll bring the panache of Flash-style graphics to browsers without the overheads of current plug-ins, but the change won't be revolutionary.

The X **factor**

What sites will become is smarter and more adaptable. The XHTML standard is the most significant change to HTML in many years. This convergence of HTML and XML makes it increasingly easy for smart designers to prepare pages in a platform-neutral way, so that they can be displayed in different ways depending upon the device that requests them. This is a hugely vital innovation with palmtops, hiptops and 3G phones set to take to the Web in the coming months.



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What is Movable Type

It is a decentralized, web-based personal publishing system designed to ease maintenance of regularly updated news or journal sites, like weblogs.

More Information...

News Archive

TRACKBACK THREADING
08.22.2002

We are releasing the TrackBack threading tool, which displays a tree display of an entire TrackBack-enabled discussion. Rather than showing just a flat, one-level list of related entries (as in the TrackBack popup window), this shows the entire thread. You can download it from here.

Installation instructions are in the README inside the

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Arch

Recently Updat

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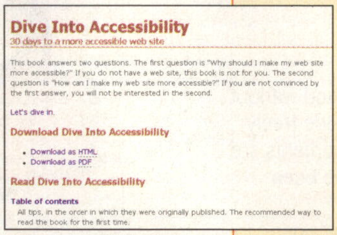
Moon Farmer

The future of the Web could be syndicated content that's sent out to a host of sites automatically. Movable Type is an early prototype

"One thing we can say about the Web is that sites aren't necessarily going to get any prettier"

The profusion of Web logs, powered by central services such as Blogger (**www.blogger.com**) or local installations such as Movable Type (**www.movabletype.org**), has also driven the desire among Web programmers to track links and new entries from a community of rapidly-updating sites. Web logs can now 'syndicate' headlines and summaries using the RSS format, which can then be fetched and displayed on central clearing houses such as Weblogs.com. This system then collates and re-formats those headlines. It's that kind of Web-based 'intelligence', building hyperlinks out of community activity rather than by hand in a HTML editor, that's set to alter its character most significantly in the years to come.



Dive Into Accessibility
30 days to a more accessible web site

This book answers two questions. The first question is "Why should I make my web site more accessible?" If you do not have a web site, this book is not for you. The second question is "How can I make my web site more accessible?" If you are not convinced by the first answer, you will not be interested in the second.

Let's dive in.

Download Dive Into Accessibility

- Download as HTML
- Download as PDF

Read Dive Into Accessibility

Table of contents
All tips, in the order in which they were originally published. The recommended way to read the book for the first time.

DiveIntoAccessibility.org contains a host of facts on the subject

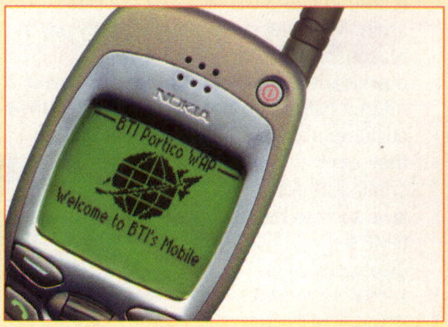
Accessibility issues

ONE OF THE first signs that accessibility would be a key Web issue was when an Australian named Bruce Maguire won a landmark case against IBM for its official Sydney Olympics site in 2000. A blind Web user, Maguire complained that the site was impossible to navigate, as images weren't supplied with ALT tags, pages weren't given individual TITLE elements, and menu systems were used with the Tab key. IBM complained it would take too long, and cost too much, to make the necessary changes. The judge disagreed.

The Maguire case sent a wake-up call to Web designers, particularly in countries such as Australia and the US, with explicit legal rulings that sites must be accessible to disabled users. The UK is set to follow suit soon, meaning that commercial sites shutting out users with disabilities will be breaking the law. Fortunately, XHTML allows for customised formatting when accessed by text-to-speech browsers, which allows disabled users to benefit while keeping pages free of excessive mark-up. Macromedia's Studio MX also integrates accessibility into its templates.

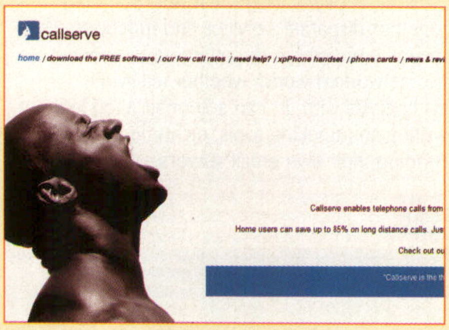
Even home users can benefit from thinking about their approach to assisting users with disabilities – if nothing else, it's a great way to tune up your Web skills with a bit of user-centred design.

Technology **turkeys**



WAP

Slow speeds, frequent drop-outs, phones that crashed (crashed? Phones shouldn't crash, but these did) and a per-minute charge that made your bill look like the national debt of Burkina Faso. You might have thought you looked like Neo from *The Matrix* with your Nokia 7110, but it really wasn't worth the effort.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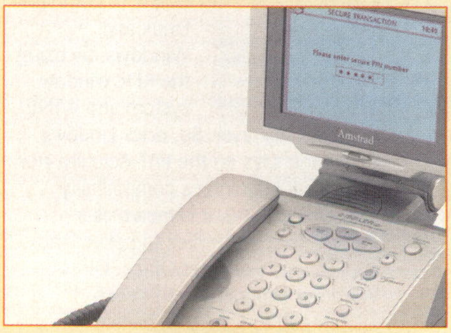
Internet telephony

The Internet was meant to bring us staggeringly cheap international phone calls. Internet telephony was promised in the mid-90s, and every attempt since has proved a staggering failure. It doesn't help that you can call the USA for 2p per minute through a regular phone, without needing to fiddle with a geeky headset.



Email appliances

They were set to bring email and Web access to computer-phobes, only they didn't. Email appliances have flopped across the board, ranging from 3Com's Audrey to the Amstrad Em@iler. The kiss of death was believing you could charge a few hundred quid and £20 a month for a one-trick pony like this.

THINKING OF GETTING ADSL?

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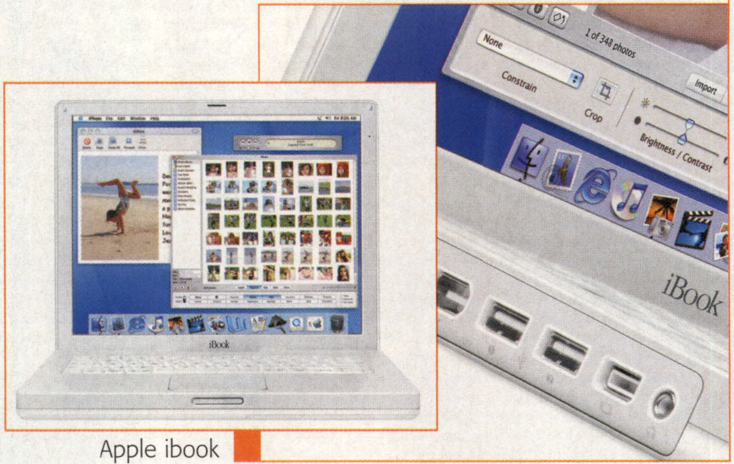
Future PC



Apple ibook
www.apple.com

FOR ALL THE talk of mobile devices, synergistic intercommunication and third-generation digital whatnots, most of us like the Internet just fine the way we've grown used to it. Let's face it, we like the keyboard, screen, beige box setup. And that's not a problem. Indeed, with the cost of the bits inside dropping, even as the speed and power goes inexorably higher, PC designers are likely to focus more on innovative design in order to distinguish themselves from the crowd.

Top of the pile, of course, is Apple, whose latest iMacs combine a miniscule form-factor with a highly desirable 17-inch LCD screen. Sure, it looks like a lampshade, but it's still setting a trend – and though a world shortage continues to keep prices high, LCD screens are set to move from being a cybercafé luxury to forming a part of every home PC setup.

Nice **cube**

In similar terms, Apple's revolutionary Cube, tiny and air-cooled, may have been short-lived, but it established a precedent for smaller PC form factors. Modern gigabyte-plus systems tend to be noisy, heat-generating things, which makes them rotten MP3 jukeboxes. Instead, we're seeing dedicated systems such as the Shuttle Spacewalker SV24 built with an emphasis on home audio and video, and it's likely that we'll see 'multimedia boxes' in one form or another augmenting or even replacing the conventional hi-fi and video recorder. After all, the TiVo personal video recorder – successful in the USA, if slow to catch the public eye over here – is nothing more, really, than a PC equipped with a video capture card, some customised software, and a Net connection to fetch the schedules.

Of course, laptop design has always allowed room for innovation, again with Apple's TiBook and iBook leading the way. A lot of that work is feeding into the latest, most intriguing area of computer design: the so-called 'hiptops', which are actually medium-sized convergence devices. Microsoft's 'tablet' PCs in particular revive some of the spirit of the Apple Newton. The size of an A4 writing pad, Tablet PCs will be able to read and process handwritten input on a touch-screen, and then either transform this to mini-laptops or external keyboards.

"LCD screens are set to move from the cybercafé into the average PC user's home"

Expert opinion

Cory Doctorow
Outreach Coodinator, **Electronic** Freedom Foundation; co-editor at **www.boingboing.net**

"I predict the rise of community defense: where groups of users team up to decide which parts of the Net should be visible and which ones should go away. Teams of Internet users can divide up the work of identifying spam and tagging it, so that only one person needs to see any given spam before it vanishes. Teams will block obnoxious ads, bad code, and the omnipresent loudmouth. These determinations will be idiosyncratic – since one person's troll is another person's pundit – and yet they'll have the nearly magical effect of ensuring that virtually everything you see on the Internet makes you happy."

www.compaq.com
Compaq PC Tablet

Home **of the** future

LG Internet fridge
www.lg.com

PLENTY OF JOKES have been made in the mainstream press about the home of the future, with its Internet toaster or Internet fridge. Well, the Internet fridge is already here – or rather, a multimedia fridge, complete with Web browser, audio player, built-in digital camera, and calendar software. Oh, and it's a fridge, too: capable of monitoring expiration dates on stored foods, and storing recipes from your own cookbook, or finding them from the Net based on what's on the shelves.

We're not likely to see a *Jetsons*-era house just yet, but with the proliferation of broadband and wireless networking, the Internet is likely to seep into everyday appliances. Whether it's something as mundane as a Net connection to fetch additional material for a TV broadcast or a playing DVD, we're set to see that kind of supplementary technology that's going to take off once networks are ubiquitous, as seen by Microsoft's proposed 'MediaCenter' system.

Wireless networking has already touched the garage of the future. Modern luxury cars are already likely to be equipped with GPS location trackers, allowing drivers to check for traffic jams, plan routes, and even get listings of nearby hotels read out to them while they're on the road. Perhaps what's most encouraging about the future is that as networking technology advances into everyone's life, you'll never again hear the accusation that the Net is just for computer nerds.

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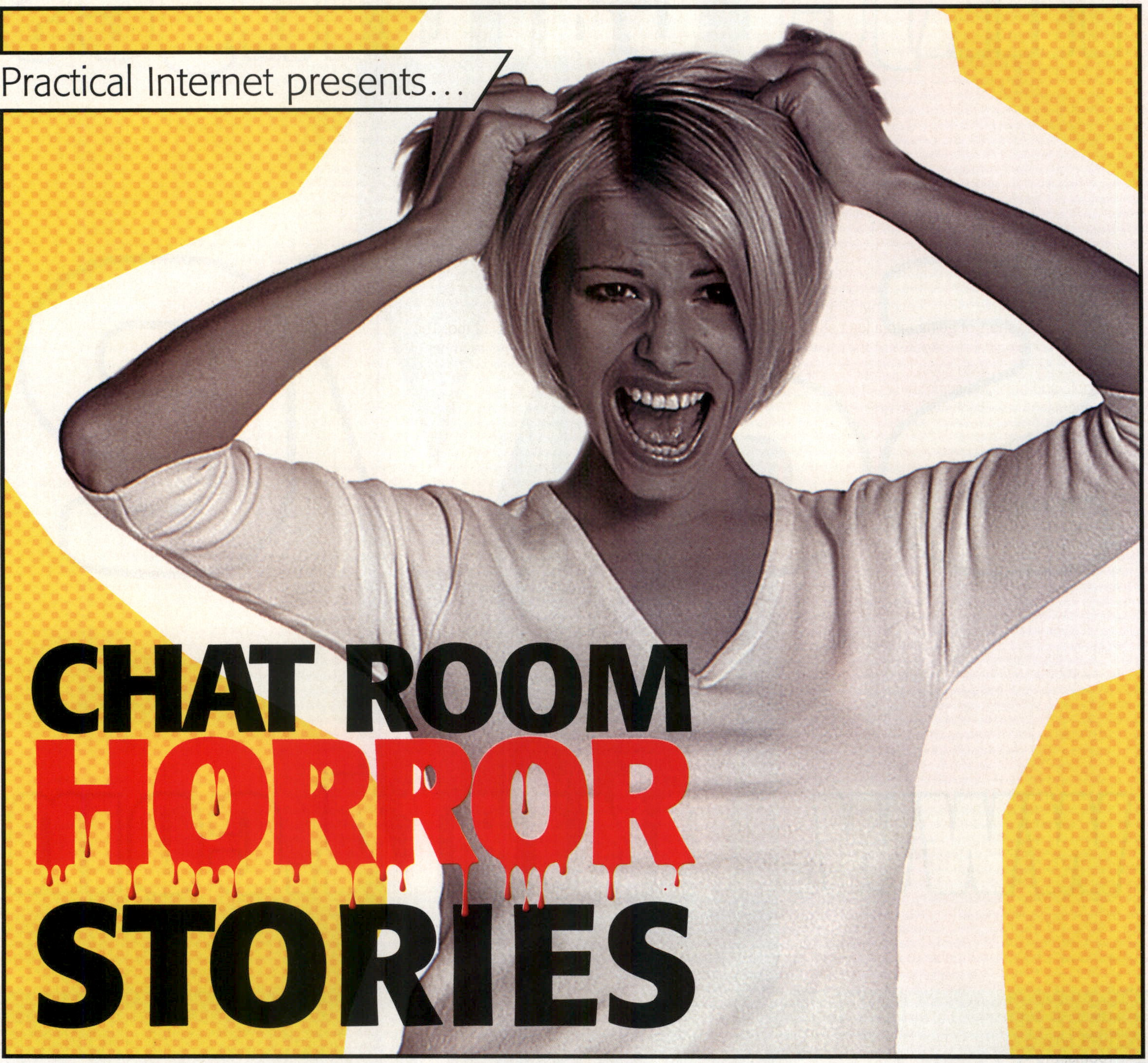

CHAT ROOM HORROR STORIES

KIEREN McCARTHY BRINGS YOU TWISTED TALES FROM THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF INTERNET CHAT ROOMS

When 27-year-old Trevor Tasker took a plane to the States to meet his chat room confidante, his heart was pounding. He was in love. He had met Wynema Shumate several months ago and corresponded with her nearly every day ever since, for hours at a time.

They were made for each other and when she sent him real photographs of herself in skimpy garments, he quickly decided to relocate to the US to be with her. Just three days later, he was back in England and Ms Shumate was in prison facing a one-year sentence for fraud.

What his wannabe lover hadn't told him was that the pictures had been taken over 35 years ago, during which time her experience had grown at the same rate as her waistline and skin folds. She had also forgotten to mention that the dead body of her former flatmate was in the freezer – with one leg missing.

He had died of natural causes but Ms Shumate wanted to continue living in the flat. Plus his bank account would come in handy. The missing leg was due to space considerations. Trevor's mum later explained that he was very embarrassed about the whole thing.

A little macabre perhaps but also hugely entertaining. But despite what you may have read, chat rooms are not all about evil paedophiles, they're also about fast and simple human interaction. Over 99 per cent of what goes on is just harmless chatting. But inevitably, there are those rare gems when something quite brainless or out of the ordinary happens…

The very things that make chat rooms so popular can easily be bent to reflect darker motives, so while you will never read the headline 'Serial humourist used chat rooms to meet long-term friends', millions of people have experienced first-hand the joy of talking with like-minded people from all over the globe.

Of course, short of going into a long and tedious sociological breakdown of the 'new media', complete with easily classified groups of people and idealised summaries of their conversations, the only way an article can explain chat rooms is to endlessly quote from them. But since the very nature of chat rooms is that they are personal, nothing could be more tedious than listing other people's conversations. Or could it?

Well, in what is an unashamedly sensational piece of journalism, we will look at the alternative side of chat rooms to what is normally presented. There'll be no sinister stalkers here, nor frothing paedophiles, credit card hackers or sex-change unicycle-riding dwarves with foot fetishes.

Nope, just the odd, peculiar and hilarious situations that the splicing of human beings and their emotions invariably throws up and which make life just that little bit more worth living.

> **"We're all gullible, it's just the level of detail that separates us"**

Game for a laugh

Everyone is gullible, the saying goes, it's just the level of detail needed that separates us. We are a very trusting race as a rule so when someone tells us something we tend to believe them – especially if you aren't able to see their eyes or check out their body language.

We are also a mischievous bunch who love to endlessly wind people up, make a mockery of them and then fall about laughing. In chat rooms, the two combine to make a heady blend of bluff and bluster.

Of course, it can all go a little too far as one poster on a technical site's forum found out to his cost. For several days, the forum was awash with tears, remorse and sadness when Anandtech community member, Dennilfloss, revealed that his girlfriend, Nowheremom (who he had met in the chat room) had died in a car crash. Tragically, her daughter had died too. The members quickly set up a memorial site to her as messages of support poured in from all over the globe.

It was only a few weeks later that suspicions were raised. Someone who lived in the same area as Nowheremom (real name, Lili Marlene) didn't recall any car crash and so started to investigate. Soon after, the forum was stunned by a lengthy confession by Dennilfloss that he had in fact made the whole thing up. Lili Marlene was not dead. The truth was, there was no such person as Nowheremom. He invented her to see what it would be like to post as a woman. Then, freaked out by male members of the community coming onto him, he started flirting with himself and eventually started going out, even visiting himself on holiday. This enormous deception became hard work and he decided to kill her off. Not before he had uploaded a picture of an adult actress, claiming it to be Nowheremom.

But if you think that's odd, another poster on the AnimeonDVD chat room actually killed herself. For God only knows what reason, Divi-chan grew bored of her online existence and posed as her sister to inform everyone that she was dead. In what is an online version of the frequent daydream about how people would behave at your funeral, she then hung around to see what people were saying about her.

Again, a tribute site to her and what she meant to all the people on the site was quickly

Top tips for chat room safety…

- **DON'T EVER GIVE out personally identifiable information, especially in a public forum unless you're 110% sure of who you're talking to. Parents should tell their kids to never give out personal information without their permission.**

- **IF YOU'RE A family, put your computer in a public place. This will make it less easy for naive family members to skulk away and post their entire life history. Of course, it also reduces the chance for more 'personal' aspects to surfing. Unless you buy two computers of course.**

- **DON'T USE A posting name that will let people figure out what your email address is. You'll only end up getting loads of spam. Also, be wary of how much information you put in a personal profile.**

- **DON'T KEEP TALKING to weird people or ones that keep asking you personal questions. Just cut them off. Some chat rooms will let you block messages from someone if they persist in bothering you.**

- **OF COURSE, IF you apply the old-fashioned skill of common sense, you can go in as many chat rooms as you like and not have any bother. Ninety-nine percent of people are there to chat, not extract details of your Swiss bank account.**

Chat room myths…

THE INTERNET IS such a perfect conduit for various degrees of disinformation that numerous Web sites exist solely to debunk myths and rumours. It seems inevitable that chat rooms will form part of the folklore.

For example, take the story of Jeremy and Katie who, both dissatisfied with their current partner, met up in a chat room and started flirting. It soon got heavier and more sexual. They arranged to meet. Katie (real name Jen) lay naked on the bed waiting for Jeremy. When he turned up, it was her dad.

It's a good tale and one that has switched from father and daughter to mother and son and taken in about six different nationalities as people's preconceived notions of different races come into effect.

Then of course there's the poor woman who was conned into believing a man in a chat room was a friend because he was friends with her friends.

Of course it wasn't true, but by that time he knew everything about her and had tapped her phone line as well – all because she had been foolish enough to give her out her credit card details to a perfect stranger.

This isn't as bad as the story of teenager Shannon. A US Christian fellowship was behind this particular tale that has done the chat room folklore circuit. It tells of how poor innocent Shannon began talking to 14-year-old GoTo123, (he was actually an FBI agent) and how easy it was to piece together her routine and where she lived from her postings. Nothing does the rounds like a possible paedophile tale.

And no, President Clinton didn't suggest the Internet needed more porn. The chat room he was speaking in crashed and a geek signed in as Clinton before CNN could kick him out.

Meanwhile....

➔ posted. The only problem was that she was spotted in real life alive and well and this was quickly reported back to the forum. Some brief investigations later and it was confirmed she was actually still alive.

Sure enough, up pops Divi-chan, aka Bethany Neal, apologising for any distress caused. Incredibly, most of the people seemed to think that it took courage and guts to confess but then we are dealing with Americans here.

Perhaps it's not so shocking since people are essentially play-acting and killing off personas and characters they have created. While some argue that one act of betrayal undermines a whole relationship, the simple fact is that human interaction is always flimsy and intangible. What makes you write or say one set of words rather than another? Why be polite when you can be sarcastic, or rude when you could be witty, or dirty when you could be complimentary? It's a matter of arbitrary decisions made in a fleeting moment depending upon what mood you're in.

The advantage chat rooms possess over email is that they provide real-time interaction: what was written five minutes ago is soon forgotten. Chat rooms conversations are pub conversations, sometimes hilarious, sometimes nonsense, other times just irritating. They're usually forgotten about the next day. An email, on the other hand, is a letter to be read, remembered and analysed.

A woman scorned

That said, Brian Tindle may not be so inclined to agree. Unfortunately for Brian, his ex-girlfriend chose his local football team's forum to post her comments on his behaviour. She pulled no punches, accusing Brian of, among other things, sleeping with an infected Greek girl on holiday, as well as a goat, Emma from Boots and – most damagingly of all – not really being a proper Watford FC supporter.

The intrigue continued to grow as more and more observers arrived at the site. The ex, now named by Brian as Sarah, proceeded to give away details regarding Brian, sparking a manhunt of his local area. She also revealed that he had called the police after she had damaged his CD collection on purpose. Her Dad also managed to make his enlightened views on what he would do to someone who hurt his daughter quite clear.

However, what makes the whole thing so ludicrous is that Sarah, through undoubted ignorance (she signed in as Bimbo83), started her crusade after being advised to take a hepatitis test. This, she presumed, was due to Brian playing away. Over the course of the postings, though, it transpired that the test was for Hepatitis E – caught from dirty water not dirty women.

Not that this mattered to the thousands of people who crammed into the chat room to see a woman scorned get her own back. You can even buy Brian Tindle T-shirts.

But do chat rooms have any further use than pointless gossip and emotional entertainment? As it happens, they do, although would it matter it they didn't?

Save the day

In an incredible turn of events, a Scotsman who had taken a drug overdose was saved by a woman in Canada who was in the same chat room. The depressed man had taken a lethal cocktail of drugs and alcohol and logged onto the Internet for some final human interaction before he died.

The woman noticed that he was having trouble typing and that his voice was becoming slurred while speaking through his computer microphone. She called the Canadian emergency services who contacted Scottish police and before you could start singing Perfect Day, an ambulance turned up at his Bannockburn home and took him to hospital.

We haven't even scratched the surface of the enormous fun to be had from winding up friends and strangers in chat rooms. The prank phonecall is a part of every teenager's arsenal, but why make a call when your voice could give it all away? In a chat room, you can pretend to be someone entirely different and make loads of outrageous comments and suggestions and do it all convincingly. All that's required is a basic understanding of psychology.

We may never know how many kids have been left waiting outside a cinema while their friends giggle around a corner, or how many personal details have been elicited from work colleagues who thought they were flirting with someone entirely different.

It's silly, it's childish, it's hilarious and it's all part of human nature. As Bill Hicks once said: "Christ, I'm sorry, I was taking myself seriously for a moment there." ■

Chat pranks...

AS WE MENTIONED earlier, chat rooms are perfect for playing practical jokes and pranks. The advantage of chat rooms is that it is easy to copy/paste them and then post them on the Internet for all to see.

There's even a book that features a huge number of hilarious wind-up sex chat room conversations proving that people's intelligence vanishes as soon as sex is involved. It's called The Myths of Cybersex (by Fuzzy Marshmallow and Inga the Dancing Pig) and you can get it at http://thenudefrog.com.

If you want a free fix of chat room humour though, pay a visit to http://asteroidfield.net where they spout nonsense at people involved with the *Star Wars* films. Then there are numerous examples all over the Internet of people that have set out to confuse, bewilder and frustrate other users.

Not that playing such pranks is always a good idea. The Internet may be a big playground for many but there aren't any teachers, so while your intentions may be good-natured, others are liable to find it more irritating. Then you may find it's yourself at the end of some unwanted attention.

Asteroid Field.net

Any Star Wars stalwarts with a sense of humour should nip along to Asteroid Field for jests galore

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AS BROADBAND PRICES TUMBLE **THOMAS WATSON** SHOWS YOU WHERE TO FIND THE BEST DEALS AND HOW TO AVOID THE CONTENTION RATIO COWBOYS

ADSL

Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line

Broadband is king. Speak to anyone with their finger on the electronic pulse, and they'll tell you that you need a chunky pipe to get anything approaching satisfaction from the Internet. In fact, very few technologies can induce such blind jealousy or bloated arrogance among individuals according to whether they have it or not.

No-one has ever denied that broadband is a must-have PC add-on, but until recently, there were a couple of particularly large spanners in the works. First of all, availability was kept to an absolute premium, meaning that only those in the very centre of a busy metropolis could even consider signing up for a broadband service. As if this wasn't bad enough, the standard prices of broadband tended to be prohibitive, to say the least. Until BT kindly allowed self-install ADSL services to really kick-start the broadband revolution, users were expected to pay at least £40 a month for the privilege of fast connections.

Prices have plummeted in recent months, though, and fierce competition now pervades the whole broadband world like a hungry wolf at feeding time. Since the world of ADSL was opened up to a welcoming public six months ago, services have been sprouting up almost daily. With each new ISP, the level of competition increases, and with that, prices fall even further. As each ISP tries it best to outdo its rivals to gain the upper hand in that virgin broadband market, the would-be subscriber finds an ever-increasing range of tempting offers to choose from.

Essential hardware

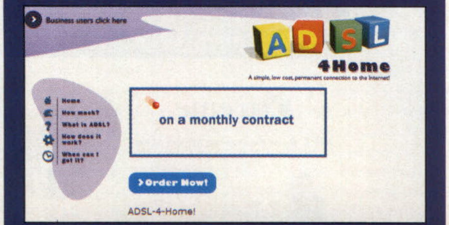
Alcatel SpeedTouch USB

www.speedtouchdsl.com

Speed Touch USB

When this blue beauty came out, it raised a fair few eyebrows. Looking much more like a manta ray than a modem, this is the cool way to get your ADSL connection off the ground. It's still relatively cheap, and won't look out of place in your living room, as well as your home office.

Recommended deal


Business users click here

ADSL 4Home

A simple, low cost, permanent connection to the Internet!

- Home
- How much?
- What is ADSL?
- How does it work?
- When can I get it?

on a monthly contract

>Order Now!

ADSL-4-Home!

NAME: ADSL4Home
URL: www.adsl4home.co.uk
Price: £11.74 a month
Currently the cheapest ADSL deal available in the UK, this new service promises to give you broadband for a tenner for the first three months. After this, it goes up to a more standard £24.95 a month, which is still reasonable. You're not tied to massive contracts, either, so there's nothing to lose with trying it out.

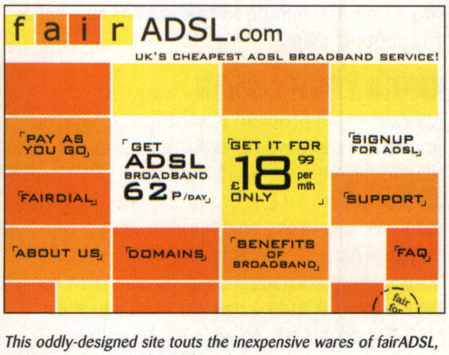
Low prices might be fantastic, but don't you ever worry when a company offers a service much cheaper than anybody else? The offer looks just a bit too good to be true, doesn't it? Unfortunately, it often is. With this in mind, we're going to take a look at the current markets in ADSL, satellite and cable access, and ascertain where the real bargains are to be found. And while we're at it, let's root out the contention ratio cowboys…

ADSL

Regular readers of *Practical Internet* will know the history of ADSL quite well by now. The original service, kicked off a couple of years ago, relied on a BT engineer coming round to your house to alter your line and get it all up and running. Unless you fell into the category of 'extremely lucky', this whole process would take at least a few weeks, and would often take a whole lot longer. What's more, you were expected to shell out a couple of hundred quid for the activation, then £40 a month just to connect up. Oh, and very few people could get near an ADSL exchange, because the roll-out was so incredibly slow.

At the start of this year, BT impressed everyone by permitting a new 'self-install' service. You buy the modem yourself, give your ISP £60 or so to convert your line (they give it to BT), and Bob is, indeed, your uncle. Not only did this cut the waiting time from months to days, but it also saved you having to splash out £200 for the pleasure of a BT engineer's company. Then, as a final flourish, BT reduced its subscription rates to around £15 a month, so your average ISP could now quite happily offer ADSL for about £25 a month.

ISPs have never rested on their laurels for any longer than was absolutely necessary, though, and prices soon started to plummet as the competition to turn millions of would-be subscribers into genuine users intensified. While the first self-install services could be sold on their ease of use, subsequent deals had to offer punters extra value for money as well. There are so many services out there, though, and we know the problems in trying to carefully choose an ISP, so it's time to find out which type of service is worth the hassle, and which you'd be better giving a wide berth to. Why would you pay £30 a month if you can get a similar service for a tenner from a different ISP? Read on, and you'll find out.


fair ADSL.com

UK'S CHEAPEST ADSL BROADBAND SERVICE!

PAY AS YOU GO

GET ADSL BROADBAND 62P/DAY

GET IT FOR £18 99 per mth ONLY

SIGNUP FOR ADSL

FAIRDIAL

SUPPORT

ABOUT US

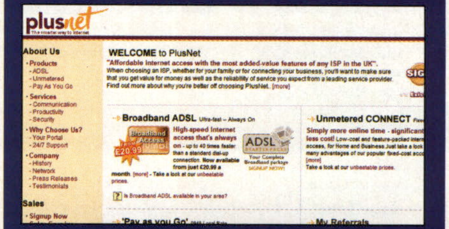
DOMAINS

BENEFITS OF BROADBAND

FAQ

*This oddly-designed site touts the inexpensive wares of fairADSL, and appears at **www.fairadsl.co.uk***

Recommended deal


plusnet
The smarter way to internet

About Us
- Products
  - ADSL
  - Unmetered
  - Pay As You Go
- Services
  - Communication
  - Productivity
  - Security
- Why Choose Us?
  - Your Portal
  - 24/7 Support
- Company
  - History
  - Network
  - Press Releases
  - Testimonials

Sales
- Signup Now

WELCOME to PlusNet

"Affordable Internet access with the most added-value features of any ISP in the UK".
When choosing an ISP, whether for your family or for connecting your business, you'll want to make sure that you get value for money as well as the reliability of service you expect from a leading service provider. Find out more about why you're better off choosing PlusNet. [more]

Broadband ADSL Ultra-fast – Always On

High-speed Internet access that's always on - up to 40 times faster than a standard dial-up connection. Now available from just £20.99 a month. [more] - Take a look at our unbeatable prices.

Is Broadband ADSL available in your area?

Unmetered CONNECT

Simply more online time - significant less cost! Low-cost and feature-packed intern access, for Home and Business.Just take a look many advantages of our popular fixed-cost acc [more]
Take a look at our unbeatable prices.

'Pay as you Go'

My Referrals

NAME: PlusNet ADSL Home
URL: www.plus.net
Price: £22.99 a month
This was one of the first self-install packages to emerge when BT opened the whole service out, and it's remained one of the top deals around. The contention ratio might be a less than perfect 50:1, but you can bet that the superb PlusNet support staff will be able to sort out just about any problem you could ever have.

Surf Safe

HOMEBASE.co.uk

To advertise here......for less than you think......click here

Welcome

All new members...

Pay as you Go

Unmetered CONNECT

From £3.99 per month

Broadband ADSL

£19.99 per month !

Intelligent DIALER

V21 Services

Sneaking under the £20 barrier, V21 offers a fine service, with few of the caveats you'll find with many of its cheaper rivals

CHEAP SCAMS

The saying 'you get what you pay for' is an old one, but it applies more than ever to the world of ADSL ISPs. While weighing up your potential service providers, you have to make sure that the one you choose offers exactly the features you want. And this doesn't mean finding a couple of things you quite like, then letting your too-keen brain fill in the blanks. It involves a good read of the Web site in question, in the

The ten cheapest ADSL suppliers

ISP/Web address	Contention ratio	Technical support costs	Minimum contract	Limitations	Activation fee	Monthly fee
ADSL4Home www.adsl4home.co.uk	50:1	Standard BT rate	One month	Only cheap for three months, then £24.95 a month	£58.69	£11.74
ET Global Solutions www.etglobalsolutions.com	50:1	National rate	Three months	N/A	£60.00	£18.95
FairADSL www.fairadsl.co.uk	50:1	Automated line, email preferred	Three months	One email address, no Web space	£58	£18.99
v21 www.v21.co.uk	50:1	£1 a minute	12 months	You have to buy a V21 ADSL modem	£70.49	£19.99
HomeChoice www.homechoice.co.uk	3:1	Freephone	12 months	You have to subscribe to HomeChoice TV access as well	£40.00	£20.00
PlusNet ADSL HomeSurf www.plus.net	50:1	Local rate	One month	Can't use file-sharing clients	£58.75	£20.99
FreeUK www.freeuk.com	50:1	Local rate	12 months	N/A	£58.75	£22.49
Freedom2Surf Home 512 www.freedom2surf.com	50:1	Standard BT rate	One month	N/A	£70.49	£22.50
Pipex Xreme Home Solo www.dsl.pipex.net	50:1	National rate	One month	N/A	£58.75	£23.44
Demon Express Solo www.demon.net	50:1	Local rate	One month	N/A	£50	£24.99

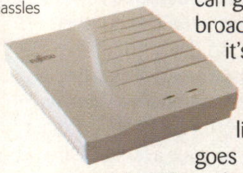
finest detail you possibly can. We know it sounds obvious, but some 'bargain' ISPs can fool you into signing up, only to tell you three months down the line about some small print in the terms and conditions that now entitles them to raid your bank account any time they want. (Breathe unmetered users might remember the deal that purportedly gave £50 for lifetime's access, and unfortunately fell through six months later when the ISP decided that its subscribers had been using the service a bit too much.)

Essential hardware

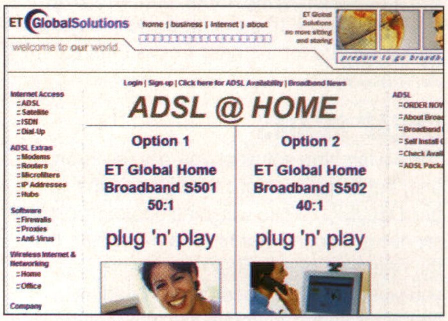
Fujitsu FDX-310

www.ftel.co.uk

Yes, we're fully aware of its beige-ness, and how it'll never turn any heads, but that's all irrelevant compared to the Fujitsu's sparkling performance. Quite simply, once you plug this baby in, you'll never suffer from connection hassles again. It's quick, reliable, and now retails at well under a hundred quid. Bonus.



It's not always in the small print, though, so you owe it to yourself to check the site out. But what are these problems that can arise? Well, it has been known for some ISPs to be less than totally honest with regards to contention ratios. You probably know by now that you'll never get a lump of broadband bandwidth to yourself, and that you'll have to share it with a certain number of others. This is known as the contention ratio, and is usually either 20:1 or 50:1, meaning that there are either 20 or 50 people sharing bandwidth. Some sneaky service providers have even started contending the ratio at their end as well, meaning that the bandwidth you know you're sharing is actually being shared with other connections on the service. The end result is that you're getting far less bandwidth than you're paying for.



ADSL @ HOME

Option 1

ET Global Home Broadband S501 50:1

plug 'n' play

Option 2

ET Global Home Broadband S502 40:1

plug 'n' play

ET GlobalSolutions offers one of the cheapest services on the market, but prepare yourself for a long wait on the support line

Another thing to look out for before parting with your hard-earned cash is how much technical support you'll get when it all goes wrong. Despite the process being simplified dramatically, there are still a lot of things that can go awry with a broadband connection, and it's best to know that there'll be somebody on the other end of the line when the balloon goes up. One of the cheapest ADSL ISPs in the UK is fairADSL, which has attracted many a visitor by charging only £18.99 a month. However, if and when it goes wrong, you'll have to put up with email-only technical support. Even if you are given a phone line option, most budget ISPs will charge you a pound a minute to talk to someone on a tiny support team.

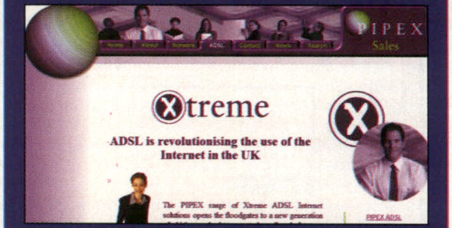
KNOW YOUR LIMITS

Although it's a problem that hasn't resurfaced since the early days of ADSL, it's still worth remembering download limit fiascos. This is the practice where an ISP promises you the world, then tells you in the small print that you can only download something like 2Gb a month. Considering a broadband power user can easily smash this target in a day, you can see the potential problems. As we said, broadband limits haven't been re-introduced yet, but as prices plummet, don't be surprised to see this help more ISPs break the £15 barrier.

FRILL ME, CHILL ME

Another check you should make before you part with your hard-earned is whether you get email and Web space with the service. We take these for granted with a new account, but many ISPs don't include them in their basic service package. These types of deals have become known as 'no-frills', and even BT has got in on the act with its appropriately-titled 'NoFrills' package, with more big-name ISPs set to follow suit. Interestingly, though, this service weighs in at a hefty £27 a month, which is nearly a tenner more than its cheapy rivals. Is BT charging too much, or are the budget ISPs undercutting

Recommended deal



Xtreme

ADSL is revolutionising the use of the Internet in the UK

The PIPEX range of Xtreme ADSL Internet solutions opens the floodgates to a new generation

NAME: PIPEX Xtreme Home Solo
URL: www.dsl.pipex.net
Price: £23.44

For years, PIPEX has been the ISP of choice for more serious users in the UK, and this hasn't changed one bit with ADSL. As well as a standard 50:1 contention ratio, you you'll be getting a damn fine service, without many of the underhand tactics of other ISPs. Oh, and you'll be privy to a fine technical support line, too.

SATELLITE

themselves ridiculously in order to get any order they can? Considering each ISP has to pay BT £15 for your account, it looks like the latter might be the case.

While you can pick up ADSL for under £20 a month, the signs at the moment are that you're better paying at least a couple of pounds more for decent extras that make the ISP worth joining. PlusNet and PIPEX both introduced self-install services as soon as it became possible to do so and, save for the time BT cut its charges, they have maintained their price structures. This means that they haven't entered into any price wars, and have merely offered good, reasonably cheap ADSL. And, as always happens in instances like this, the name counts for something. Virtually all of the stupidly cheap services are run by new kids on the block – you just couldn't imagine AOL or Freeserve stooping to £18 a month ADSL. So, the advice here is to check out the smallest of small print, and make sure you're not signing your life away on something that'll come back to haunt you again and again.

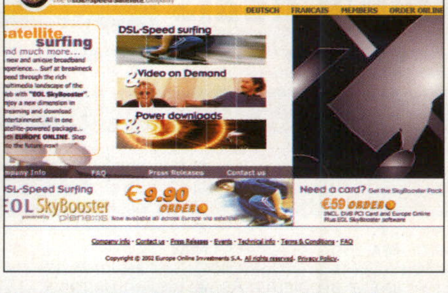
SATELLITE

A quick scan over the satellite listings on a site like Net4Nowt (**www.net4nowt**) tells you two things. First of all, there aren't many satellite broadband providers in the UK right now. Secondly, the prices of services vary ridiculously. The amount the home user is expected to pay ranges from a paltry £8 a month to a sniff under £200, and installation costs vary from zilch to well over a thousand pounds. It's not all extremes: there are plenty of budget services out there, so how do you find out which is worth a punt?

Europe Online (**www.europeonline.com**) is the undisputed master of cheap satellite offers, with a service that strolls in at £8 a month (and that's including VAT), and doesn't charge you an installation fee. How is it possible? Well, there are loads of provisos you really should check out before signing up, because it's these limitations that allow the service to be so cheap. The main thing to note here is that Europe Online isn't actually an ISP; you're going to have to keep your old account for access. Europe Online is a video-on-demand system, allowing you to pick and choose films to watch through the service. The facility also features a file downloading system, turning your standard dial-up ISP into a broadband one really easily. However, you can't access any file sharing clients, and you'll have a download limit of 700Mb.

A STEP UP

Move a tenner up the price ladder, and you can finally start talking about proper satellite ISPs. The Starspeeder service from Ipviasat



...nd much more... new and unique broadband ...perience... Surf at breakneck ...peed through the rich ...ultimedia landscape of the ...eb with "EOL SkyBooster". ...njoy a new dimension in ...treaming and download ...ntertainment. All in one ...atellite-powered package... ...ith EUROPE ONLINE. Step ...to the future now!

Now available all across Europe via satellite

INCL. DVB PCI Card and Europe Online Plus EOL SkyBooster software

Company info · Contact us · Press Releases · Events · Technical info · Terms & Conditions · FAQ

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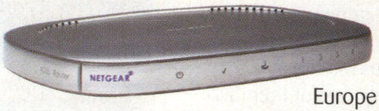
It's got more catches than a fisherman's best story, but Europe Online is still the cheapest way to pick up satellite broadband

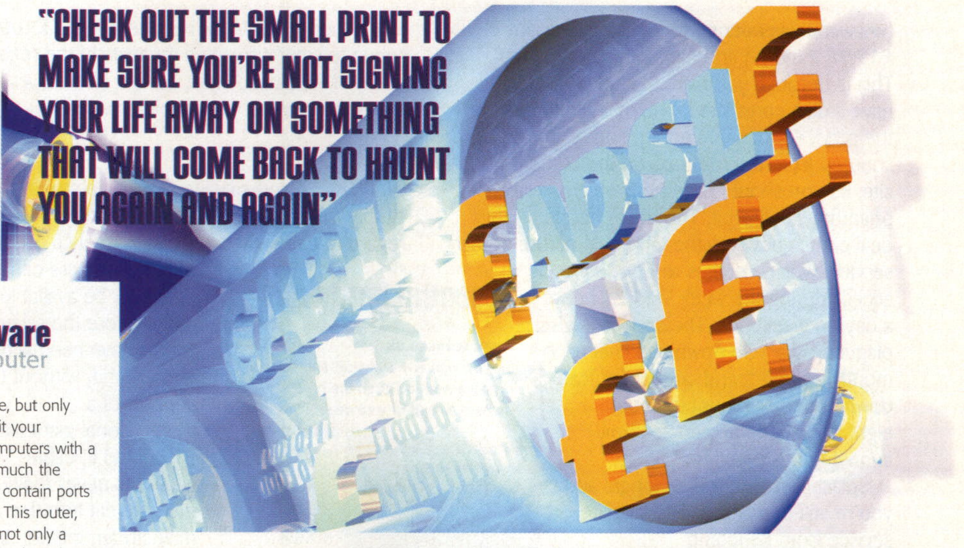
Essential hardware

Netgear DG814 Router

www.netgear.co.uk

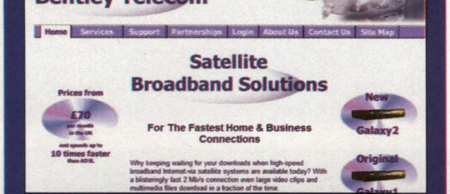
Got a phalanx of PCs at home, but only one connection? Why not split your bandwidth across all your computers with a router? These work in pretty much the same way as a modem, only contain ports for a number of connections. This router, the DG814 from NetGear, is not only a fine-looking specimen, but also does the necessary with connection-splitting.





"CHECK OUT THE SMALL PRINT TO MAKE SURE YOU'RE NOT SIGNING YOUR LIFE AWAY ON SOMETHING THAT WILL COME BACK TO HAUNT YOU AGAIN AND AGAIN"

Recommended deal



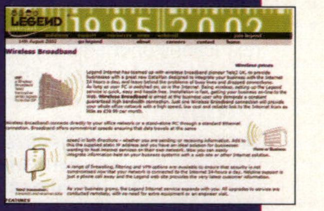
Why keeping waiting for your downloads when high-speed broadband Internet via satellite systems are available today? With a blisteringly fast 2 Mb/s connection even large video clips and multimedia files download in a fraction of the time.

NAME: Bentley Walker Bronze Surfer
URL: www.bentleywalker.com
Price: £70.00

It might sound like some kind of electronically-enhanced zimmer frame, but this is a great deal. We know it's nowhere near as cheap as some of the other satellite deals currently on the market, but this is an excellent starting point for getting your hands on full, unrestricted satellite Internet access.

Wireless access

THERE'S A FAIR chance that wireless access could be the future. The concept, where a single transmitter sends signals to PCs across a whole city, gets rid of the need for underground cables, exchanges and satellite dishes, and makes it all much easier. As with every nascent technology you ever find, wireless Net access is only available in a small part of the country so far, and you'll have to spend a bit more on it, but at least you know you're jumping into the future right at the start.



Pop along to www.legend.co.uk to check your potential for wireless

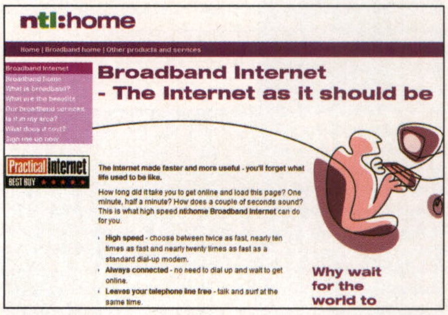
Liberty Broadband (**www.libertybroadband.co.uk**) offers a 512Kb service that competes with any ADSL you'd get at the moment, and charges an okay £39.99 a month for the privilege. As yet, it's not edged its way north of Bradford, or west of Bristol, but the service is soon set to expand big time. The service, which is run in conjunction with Tele2, affords you all the benefits of a decent ADSL package, including 30:1 contention ratio, and doesn't charge you too much more in the process.

Legend (also an off-shoot of Tele2) offers much the same deal, only gives you the option of upgrading your bandwidth for a more pleasant wireless experience. And there's even the opportunity to turn your wireless connection into a leased line, which can't be bad.

CABLE

(**www.starspeeder.co.uk**) costs a pleasant £19.98 a month and has no installation fee. This is because you have to shell out £150 to have a dish connected. The main limitations on the service, once you get up and running, are shouted from the rooftops on the company's site, so you should have no problems with phantom small print. The major hassle on this deal comes down to the 'off-peak' nature of the service, which equates to 5pm-8am access during the week, and 24-hours a day on weekends. The service is also plagued by a 1Gb download limit each month. A broadband connection can download this amount in about eight hours, so you can see how annoying this could be.

Splash out a bit more wonga, and you're still in a pickle. The satellite service from Kencomp (**www.kencomp.net**) retails at just under £30 a month. Alas, the only real difference between this and the cheaper Starspeeder offer is that your download limit doubles to 2Gb a month. In fact, it's only when you move into the big league that you can actually start picking up the kind of 'unlimited' deals that you'd get with all but the cheapest of ADSL services. The bizarrely named Bentley Walker Bronze Surfer (**www.bentleywalker.com**) package promises you an average download bandwidth of 450Kbps, and puts no restrictions on the time you surf, or on the amount you download either. It costs a hefty £70 a month to run the service, but the £100 set up fee might sweeten the taste of the regular outlay. If ADSL and cable are out of the question, this is the best bet for reliable broadband.



Broadband Internet - The Internet as it should be

The Internet made faster and more useful - you'll forget what life used to be like.

How long did it take you to get online and load this page? One minute, half a minute? How does a couple of seconds sound? This is what high speed **ntl:home Broadband Internet** can do for you.

- **High speed** - choose between twice as fast, nearly ten times as fast and nearly twenty times as fast as a standard dial-up modem.
- **Always connected** - no need to dial up and wait to get online.
- **Leaves your telephone line free** - talk and surf at the same time.

Why wait for the world to

If you want to go for a cable ISP your choice is limited to either NTL or Telewest; each serves a different area of the UK

CABLE

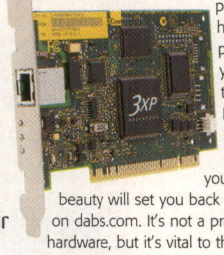
While ADSL and satellite services abound, there simply isn't the same wealth of choice with regard to cable access. This is largely a question of area – access can only ever be available in areas where the relevant cables have been laid already and, without the support of a multinational giant like BT behind it, cable access is never really going to eat into the mainstream market. In fact, there are two cable access providers in the UK. And you don't really have the option to go for one or the other, either, as only one of them will be available to you. Unless you're prepared to relocate, you're stuck with what you're given.

Essential hardware

NIC card

www.3com.co.uk

Sign up with any cable ISP, and you will almost always be given the necessary modem as part of your deal. This sorts out part of the hardware problem, but you'll still need to purchase a Network Interface Card to connect it to your PC. This little beauty will set you back less than £30 on dabs.com. It's not a pricey piece of hardware, but it's vital to the running of your cable modem.



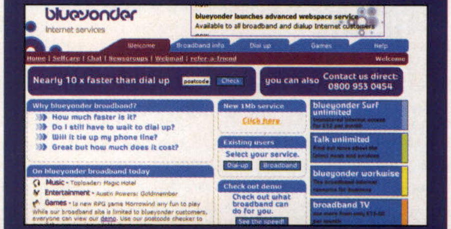
What you should look out for, though, is the different bandwidth offered by both the big guns. Telewest Blueyonder (**www.blueyonder.co.uk**) and NTL (**www.ntl.com**) will both furnish you with extra bandwidth as long as you cross their palms with silver, although you won't have to splash out too much more for much quicker access. Blueyonder very helpfully transforms your standard 500kb connection into a more appealing 1Mb for an extra £2 a month (£35 instead of £33).

Another way of making sure you get the best deal on your cable broadband account is to sign up for a combination TV/phone/Internet access package. This situation, where you pick up an all-in-one deal, is best for both you and the cable company – you get everything for a much cheaper price, and the cable company doesn't have to keep chasing you to sign up for its additional services. Everyone's a winner.

Do's and don'ts

- ✓ DO make sure that your ISP isn't contending your service at both ends
- ✓ DO phone up the tech support line beforehand to see if they're any good
- ✓ DO check that there are no download limits
- ✓ DO check which kind of broadband you need first. ADSL is much cheaper than satellite, after all
- ✓ DO draw up a list of features you want, and choose the one that offers you the most
- ✖ DON'T go rushing in on the first deal you see
- ✖ DON'T sign up for a year with a new firm, whatever you do
- ✖ DON'T buy needless bandwidth – 500Kb will do for most people
- ✖ DON'T be dazzled by flashing lights and promises of wealth and riches
- ✖ DON'T come crying to us if you don't

Recommended deal



blueyonder launches advanced webspace service
Available to all broadband and dialup Internet customers

Nearly 10 x faster than dial up

you can also Contact us direct: 0800 953 0454

Why blueyonder broadband?
- How much faster is it?
- Do I still have to wait to dial up?
- Will it tie up my phone line?
- Great but how much does it cost?

On blueyonder broadband today
- Music - Toploader: Magic Hotel
- Entertainment - Austin Powers: Goldmember
- Games - Is new RPG game Morrowind any fun to play

While our broadband site is limited to blueyonder customers, everyone can view our demo. Use our postcode checker to

New 1Mb service

Existing users
Select your service.

Check out demo
Check out what broadband can do for you.

blueyonder Surf unlimited

Talk unlimited

blueyonder workwise

broadband TV

NAME: Blueyonder 1Mb
URL: www.blueyonder.co.uk
Price: £35.00

If you want 1Mb bandwidth, this is the best way to go about it. Considering NTL charges some £50 for a similar service, the £35 you pay here is an absolute pittance. What's more, it's only two quid more than the standard 500Kb Blueyonder service. Blueyonder wants you to go for the extra, and deep down you know you do too.

The five cheapest satellite deals

ISP/Web address	Technical support costs	Minimum contract	Limitations	Activation fee	Monthly fee
Europe Online www.europeonline.com	Support line based in Luxembourg	One month	Service is really only a downloading tool	N/A	£7.47
SatDrive www.satdrive.com	Standard BT	12 months	An email, Favorites or download add-on to your normal ISP	£399.00	£14.99
Starspeeder www.starspeeder.co.uk	Email only for consumers	N/A	1Gb monthly download limit, off-peak access only	N/A	£19.98
Bentley Walker Bronze Surfer www.bentleywalker.com	Standard BT	N/A	N/A	£100.00	£70.00
BTopenworld Business Satellite 500/1 www.btopenworld.com	Local rate	N/A	Business account can only be used on one machine	£1056.33	£70.49

Tiscali 10.0

FREE GIFT
when you join!

Join Tiscali 10.0

The next generation Internet service

Tiscali 10.0 is the brand new Internet service from Tiscali. It's **fast** and **reliable** and really easy to use. Just one password gives you instant access to the Internet and all our exclusive products and services, making the Internet rewarding, easy and fun!

Choose from **no monthly fee** or our range of **great value** all-inclusive packages including Tiscali Broadband.

Great Value Call Packages!

TISCALI 10.0 Just one password gives you:

INTERNET ACCESS
EMAIL
WEB SPACE
Speed and reliability to use the internet without limits.

CALENDAR
MESSENGER
PEOPLE & CHAT
To share your passions, time and friendships.

TISCALI BY PHONE
TISCALI MOBILE
TEXT MESSAGING
To better integrate telephone, mobile, text and PC using the latest web technologies.

PLUS, **TISCALI BROWSER**, the navigation software which can be personalised and gives you instant access to all our products and services.

EASY TO JOIN! **Simply load the Cover CD on the front of this issue**
Or call **0800 111 210** for your **FREE** Internet start-up pack

www.tiscali.co.uk

TISCALI

The big picture

WHATEVER THE GENRE, THERE'S PLENTY OF FILM ACTION ON THE INTERNET. **POZ HULLS** PRESENTS THE NOMINEES FOR BEST MOVIE WEB SITE

The summer is over, the blockbusters have gone and there are no big screen hi-jinks until Christmas, right? Wrong. Although the excitement at the multiplex may be a bit muted, it's alive and well on the Net all year round. There are sites for film news and reviews, sites for celebrity gossip and most importantly of all, sites that make you want to rush out to your 'local' cinema and pay eight quid to lose yourself for a couple of hours.

Being able to find out about upcoming releases is one advantage to film sites, but there are many others. For instance, the information you get on the Internet is much juicier than the routine publicity fluff that you get on TV; Tom Cruise waving at fans, Tom Cruise smiling very wide and the like. The sites we'll show you take you behind the celeb smiles and blockbuster back-slapping so that by the time the season of goodwill is here, you'll know exactly what's worth seeing. Will *The Chamber of Secrets* tempt you back to the Harry Potter fold, or will *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers* work its magic on you?

It's not just the blockbusters that are catered for either. In fact, autumn is the time Hollywood studios release their Oscar contenders, so talk on the Web will focus on the independent side of things as well as the *Spider-Man* angle over the next few months.

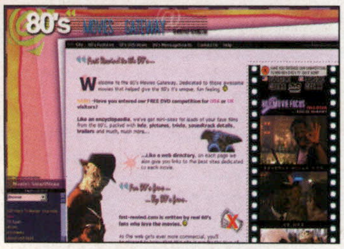
Whether you're a fan of gross-out comedy, period drama or anything in between, there's so much out there, if only you know where to look. Which sites deserve Oscars and which are destined for Channel 5 obscurity? Read on as we preview ten of the best movie sites.

Fast-Rewind

www.fast-rewind.com

THE EIGHTIES MOVIE: when trousers were tight, hair was big and geeks got the girl. If you think a site revering films like *Teen Wolf* and *Sixteen Candles* sounds awful, Fast-Rewind could persuade you otherwise. It has a huge collection of reviews, all written with more wit and trivia than you could shake a ruffled-shirt-wearing stick at.

The site also features a section on honorary Eighties movies, so more recent hits like *There's Something About Mary* and *The Wedding Singer* get a look in. Of course it isn't the place to come for information on current movies: Fast-Rewind is a Web destination to wallow in rather than check on a regular basis. Jam-packed with the sort of trivia that's so juicy you don't care if it's true, this site is a must for anyone who still sees Molly Ringwald when they close their eyes at night.



It's shoulder pads at dawn at Fast-Rewind

The **verdict**

Content:	★★★★★
Extras:	★★★☆☆
Ease of use:	★★★★☆
Overall percentage:	**87%**
✓	Humour, insight and feel-good flicks
✗	No new release info

[SITE TEST]

The Internet Movie Database

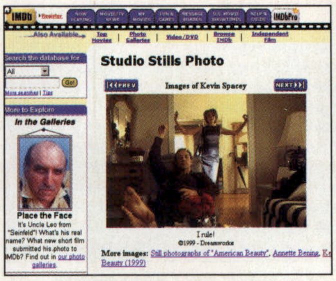
www.imdb.com

THE INTERNET MOVIE Database (IMDb) is regarded as the best place for bare movie facts on the Net. Want to know who played 'hoodlum#3' in your favourite Thirties gangster movie? This site can tell you. It's also a great place for movie stills – search for an actor and, even if they're only an orange-hot star, you'll find pages of pictures to scroll through, all organised by film. The news section has improved vastly over the last year or so too, turning this from a site you'd only visit occasionally on a fact-finding mission into a place to check out regularly.

Although the site can be a bit dry – it is a database after all – it does its best to give you a laugh. Along with detailed cast, crew and plot notes of each film, you also get a page of memorable quotes, continuity errors and a list of films that have influenced or been influenced by the movie. If you care about films at all, this is a must for your Favorites menu.

The verdict

Content:	★★★★★
Extras:	★★★★☆
Ease of use:	★★★★☆
Overall percentage:	**89%**
✓	Masses of info, very detailed
✗	Standard of visitor contributions varies



Also Available... Top Movies | Photo Galleries | Video/DVD | Browse IMDb | Independent Film

Search the database for: All Go!

More to Explore

In the Galleries

Place the Face

It's Uncle Leo from "Seinfeld"! What's his real name? What new short film submitted his photo to IMDb? Find out in our photo galleries.

Studio Stills Photo

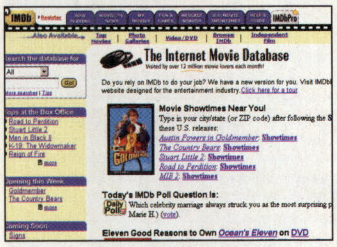
Images of Kevin Spacey

I rule!

©1999 - Dreamworks

More images: Still photographs of "American Beauty", Annette Bening, Ke Beauty (1999)

Relive all your favourite movie moments with the incredibly comprehensive stills collection



The Internet Movie Database

Visited by over 12 million movie lovers each month!

Do you rely on IMDb to do your job? We have a new version for you. Visit IMDb website designed for the entertainment industry. Click here for a tour

Movie Showtimes Near You!

Type in your city/state (or ZIP code) after following the S these U.S. releases:

Austin Powers in Goldmember: Showtimes

The Country Bears: Showtimes

Stuart Little 2: Showtimes

Road to Perdition: Showtimes

MIB 2: Showtimes

Tops at the Box Office: Road to Perdition, Stuart Little 2, Men in Black II, K-19: The Widowmaker, Reign of Fire, more

Opening this Week: Goldmember, The Country Bears, more

Coming Soon: Signs

Today's IMDb Poll Question Is:

Which celebrity marriage always struck you as the most surprising p Marie H.) (vote).

Eleven Good Reasons to Own *Ocean's Eleven* on DVD

There's a good chance that any piece of movie trivia you want to unearth is here

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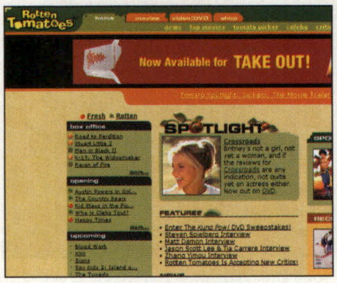


Now Available for TAKE OUT!

Fresh Rotten

box office: Road to Perdition, Stuart Little 2, Men in Black II, K-19: The Widowmaker, Reign of Fire, more...

opening: Austin Powers in Gol..., The Country Bears, Kid Stays in the Pic..., Who Is Cletis Tout?, Happy Times, more...

upcoming: Blood Work, Signs, Spy Kids 2: Island o..., The Tuxedo

SPOTLIGHT

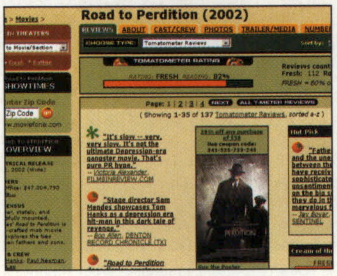
Crossroads

Britney's not a girl, not yet a woman, and if the reviews for Crossroads are any indication, not quite yet an actress either. Now out on DVD.

FEATURES

- Enter The *Kung Pow!* DVD Sweepstakes!
- Steven Spielberg Interview
- Matt Damon Interview
- Jason Scott Lee & Tia Carrere Interview
- Zhang Yimou Interview
- Rotten Tomatoes Is Accepting New Critics!

Will your favourite tomatoes be fresh or rotten?



Road to Perdition (2002)

REVIEWS ABOUT CAST/CREW PHOTOS TRAILER/MEDIA

CHOOSE TYPE: Tomatometer Reviews

TOMATOMETER RATING

RATING: FRESH READING: 82%

Reviews count Fresh: 112

FRESH = 60% o

Page: 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 NEXT ALL T-METER REVIEWS

(Showing 1-35 of 137 Tomatometer Reviews, sorted a-z)

"It's slow -- very, very slow. It's not the ultimate Depression-era gangster movie. That's pure PR hype." -- Victoria Alexander, FILMSINREVIEW.COM

"Stage director Sam Mendes showcases Tom Hanks as a depression era hit-man in this dark tale of revenge." -- Bob Allen, DENTON RECORD CHRONICLE (TX)

"Road to Perdition

Dozens of opinions at a single glance

Rotten Tomatoes

www.rottentomatoes.com

DESPITE WHAT ITS name may suggest, Rotten Tomatoes is not only about terrible movies. The aforementioned fruits are simply the way the site rates each movie. And as a compilation of hundreds of reviews – spanning big-name critics as well as nobodies from the Smalltown Sentinel – there really is no better place to get the big picture. One page compiles all the must-read quotes you need and you can click from here to read each and every review in full. Just one quick glance at some of the pages on this site and you'll be perfectly qualified to discuss the latest releases with the best of them – with a little help from the US critics, of course.

The site has news, the US box office chart and information on upcoming movies, too. It also has a growing DVD section and you can link to another site to buy film posters. In fact the only thing that lets Rotten Tomatoes down is its confusing design, but once you know where you are, it's a feast of filmic fun.

The verdict

Content:	★★★★★
Extras:	★★★☆☆
Ease of use:	★★★☆☆
Overall percentage:	**82%**
✓	No other site has so many opinions
✗	Odd design, not the place for news

Guardian Unlimited Film

http://film.guardian.co.uk

WHATEVER YOU DO, don't make the mistake of thinking the *Guardian's* film Web site will be boring. As the only broadsheet with cinema coverage worth the salt on its popcorn, the site certainly has in-depth looks at all the 'serious' movies. But, and this is where you may be surprised, it has plenty on multiplex fodder and celebrates it just as whole-heartedly. Where else could you find a mood matcher that lists movies to watch depending on your state of mind?

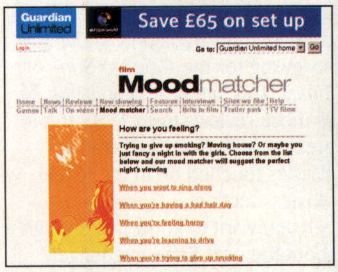
The site's clout also means that you can find all the best interviews and features plus a section on Brits in film and which TV movies are good that week. While too many sites swap serious criticism for flip star-worshipping and plot re-treads, Guardian Unlimited gives you plenty to think about. It's all done with wit and insight, though, making for a light, enjoyable and informed read. Not to be missed if you want to sound like you know what you're talking about.

The verdict

Content:	★★★★★
Extras:	★★★★☆
Ease of use:	★★★★☆
Overall percentage:	**89%**
✓	Intelligent, humorous reviews
✗	No scoops or gossip

Guardian Unlimited
Offer Extended
Go to: Guardian Unlimited home
film
What's on near me?
Enter your postcode

The Guardian site has much for movie fans



Save £65 on set up

Go to: Guardian Unlimited home Go

film

Moodmatcher

Home | News | Reviews | Now showing | Features | Interviews | Sites we like | Help

Games | Talk | On video | **Mood matcher** | Search | Brits in film | Trailer park | TV films

How are you feeling?

Trying to give up smoking? Moving house? Or maybe you just fancy a night in with the girls. Choose from the list below and our mood matcher will suggest the perfect night's viewing

When you want to sing along

When you're having a bad hair day

When you're feeling horny

When you're learning to drive

When you're trying to give up smoking

Find out which films match your mood

Top ten movies

GO TO **www.the-movie-times.com** for all kind of cinematic statistics. The list below is the worldwide box office receipts of all time. *Titanic* is still on top, proving once and for all that there is no power greater than the lust of teenage girls for floppy haired fops.

1 Titanic	**£1173m**
2 Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone	**£617m**
3 Episode One: The Phantom Menace	**£590m**
4 Jurassic Park	**£588m**
5 The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring	**£547m**
6 Independence Day	**£520m**
7 Star Wars	**£510m**
8 The Lion King	**£490m**
9 ET	**£484m**
10 Spider-Man	**£479m**

The shape of things to come

EVEN THOUGH THERE'S still a few dollars to be squeezed out of this summer's line-up, next year's big hitters are already jostling for the top slots. Gracing May 2003 will be two sci-fi sequels; *X-Men 2* and *The Matrix Reloaded. The Hulk* and *Charlie's Angels 2: Halo* will do box office battle in June, leaving July clear to offer the much anticipated *Terminator 3: The Rise of the Machines*. If the thought of all that leaves you on sequel overload then just wait until Autumn 2003 and the new film from multi-talented Quentin Tarantino. *Kill Bill* stars Uma Thurman, Lucy Liu and Michael Madsen and expectations are very, very high. And if that's still not enough to whet your cinema-going appetite then think about Christmas 2003, which will see the last part of *Lord of the Rings*, called *The Return of the King*, as well as more flying Keanu in *The Matrix Revolutions*.

He said he'd be back, and Arnie's set to deliver with a new Terminator film due next summer

Favourite films

AS A NICE comparison to the financial winners, **www.imdb.com** keeps its own list of the top ten best films of all time, voted for by visitors to the site. Note that the perennial critics' choice for best film in the universe, Orson Welles' *Citizen Kane*, sneaks in at number five.

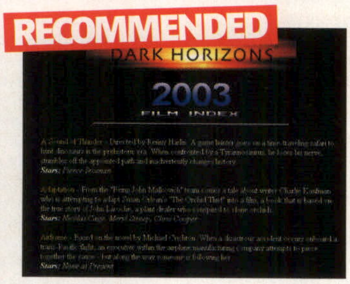
1 The Godfather
2 The Shawshank Redemption
3 The Godfather Part II
4 Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring
5 Citizen Kane
6 Schindler's List
7 Casablanca
8 Seven Samurai
9 Star Wars
10 Memento

Gandalf helps Frodo harness the immense power of his ring at number four

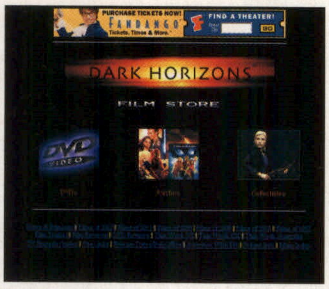
Trailer park

IT'S A SAD state of affairs when the trailer is better than the movie, but if you've seen *Godzilla* then you'll know it's possible. One of the big advantages of the Internet, and having broadband especially, is that you don't have to wait to see trailers in the cinema. These brief snippets of cinematic delight are freely posted on the Net and **www.apple.com/trailers** is a great place to start looking. If you have no joy there then try **http://movies.yahoo.com/trailers** which features clips from movies, as well as the official trailers. Another site that's worth checking out, particularly is you want a range of resolutions at which to view the preview action, is **www.virtuetv.com/film/trailers.** If the three of these sites can't come up with what you're looking for, then the chances are that it hasn't even been shot yet. Movies are such a tease aren't they?

RECOMMENDED


DARK HORIZONS
2003
FILM INDEX

Perfect to while away a Sunday afternoon


PURCHASE TICKETS NOW!
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Tickets, Times & More.
FIND A THEATER!
GO
DARK HORIZONS
FILM STORE

Find all sorts of film-related merchandise

Dark Horizons

www.darkhorizons.com

THERE'S NO POINT pretending that Dark Horizons is an easy site to navigate. If you're on a swift fact-finding mission, don't use it, but if you want some serious browsing and to learn things that you simply haven't read anywhere else, this is a cracking place to come. Five minutes on this site will give you more exclusive Robert De Niro rumours and revelations than other sites manage in a lifetime.

What's more, Dark Horizons doesn't just give you news and reviews. It also has an excellent line in trailer links and box office statistics. There is so much covered that you can read full guides to whole seasons of TV as well as script reviews, before the films themselves have even been made! There's also an incredible number of interview transcripts with top Hollywood stars and details of films to come. Dark Horizons doesn't have the personal touch that Ain't It Cool does, but it tops it for the sheer volume of information.

The verdict

Content	★★★★★
Extras	★★★★★
Ease of use	★★★☆☆
Overall percentage:	**91%**

✓ More information than any other site

✖ Can be tricky to find things

CinemaScreen.co.uk

www.cinemascreen.co.uk

ONE LOOK AT CinemaScreen's professional-looking Web address and colourful home page, and you may think it's another studio-funded site. You'd be wrong – it is essentially the work of one man. The graphics, feel and design may not suffer because of this, but the content and standard of the reviews do. But, and this is the reason the site is worth checking out, you can change that. By joining the CinemaScreen team you can vote for your favourite films as well as posting your own reviews of new or old films.

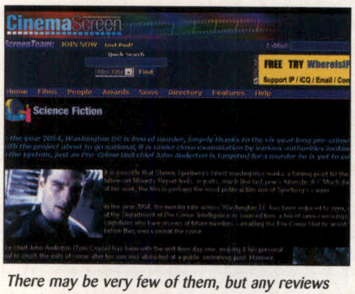
The news headlines on CinemaScreen mean you won't miss out, but as these simply link to the Guardian news pages, you'd be better off going straight there. In fact the site has a reasonable amount of bare bones information and the recent addition of photos from premieres is a welcome touch. Give CinemaScreen a couple of years and it might become more of a must-see, but at the moment, it's like an average Hollywood movie that you can take or leave.

The verdict

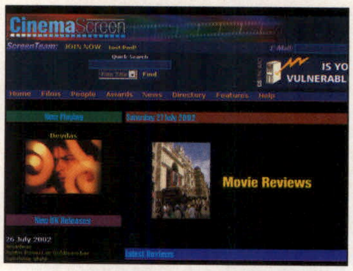
Content	★★☆☆☆
Extras	★☆☆☆☆
Ease of use	★★★★☆
Overall percentage:	**63%**

✓ A growing site with potential

✖ Few reviews


CinemaScreen
ScreenTeam: JOIN NOW Lost Pwd?
Quick Search
Film Title
Find
E-Mail
FREE TRY WhereIsIP
Support IP / ICQ / Email / Con
Home Films People Awards News Directory Features Help
Science Fiction

There may be very few of them, but any reviews you find on CinemaScreen are thorough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VULNERABL
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Now Playing
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Devdas
Movie Reviews
New UK Releases
26 July 2002
Latest Reviews

The home page seems to promise visitors more than the site actually contains

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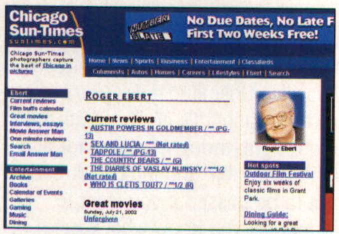
The Sun-Times Film Index

www.suntimes.com/index/ebert.html

TOM AND JERRY, Laurel and Hardy, Maverick and Goose. The cinema is full of successful buddy-buddy team-ups. To add to that list is Gene Siskel and Roger Ebert; two film critics who turned their thumbs up and down so forcefully that even Hollywood took note. Siskel sadly died in 1999, but Roger Ebert has continued his traditional know-it-all reviewing for the *Chicago Sun-Times*. This site is a compilation of all those reviews from 1985 to the present, with many celluloid classics touched on in the 'Great Movies' section.

If you want to know just enough about the next Schwarzenegger/ Hanks/ Haley Joel Osment blockbuster that you won't feel embarrassed down the pub, Ebert has the perfect solution. As well as his more thoughtful dissections, you can also grab the facts and run with his One Minute Reviews. There's a fine line between being knowledgeable and being a know-it-all and Ebert certainly walks it.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suntimes.com
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Film buffs calendar
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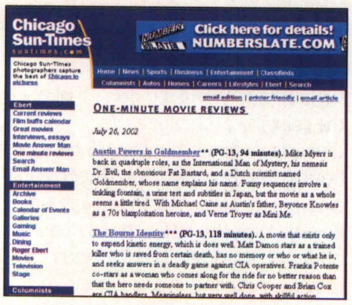
Music
Dining
ROGER EBERT
Roger Ebert
Hot spots
Outdoor Film Festival
Dining Guide:
Looking for a great

Current reviews
- AUSTIN POWERS IN GOLDMEMBER / ** (PG-13)
- SEX AND LUCIA / *** (Not rated)
- TADPOLE / ** (PG-13)
- THE COUNTRY BEARS / ** (G)
- THE DIARIES OF VASLAV NIJINSKY / **1/2 (Not rated)
- WHO IS CLETIS TOUT? / **1/2 (R)

Great movies
Sunday, July 21, 2002
Unforgiven

Enjoy six weeks of classic films in Grant Park.

Ebert has plenty to say to make up for the lack of pictures on the site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Film buffs calendar
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Movie Answer Man
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Entertainment
Archive
Books
Calendar of Events
Galleries
Gaming
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Dining
Roger Ebert
Movies
Television
Stage
Columnists

ONE-MINUTE MOVIE REVIEWS

July 26, 2002

Austin Powers in Goldmember** (PG-13, 94 minutes). Mike Myers is back in quadruple roles, as the International Man of Mystery, his nemesis Dr. Evil, the obnoxious Fat Bastard, and a Dutch scientist named Goldmember, whose name explains his name. Funny sequences involve a tinkling fountain, a urine test and subtitles in Japan, but the movie as a whole seems a little tired. With Michael Caine as Austin's father, Beyonce Knowles as a 70s blaxploitation heroine, and Verne Troyer as Mini Me.

The Bourne Identity*** (PG-13, 118 minutes). A movie that exists only to expend kinetic energy, which is does well. Matt Damon stars as a trained killer who is saved from certain death, has no memory or who or what he is, and seeks answers in a deadly game against CIA operatives. Franka Potente co-stars as a woman who comes along for the ride for no better reason than that the hero needs someone to partner with. Chris Cooper and Brian Cox are CIA handlers. Meaningless, but very well done, with skillful action

Want quick reviews ? Try the One-Minute Reviews

The verdict

Content	★★★★☆
Extras	★★☆☆☆
Ease of use	★★★★☆
Overall percentage:	**81%**

✓ Real opinion, not just publicity fluff

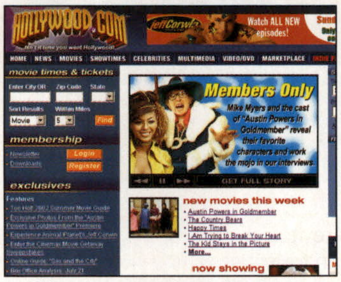
✖ The smug style is liable to provoke

Hollywood.com

www.hollywood.com

THIS SNAZZY SITE has plenty of great features, interview clips and trailers for you to enjoy. It also has a fantastic news section, full of Tinseltown casting whispers and star-studded rumours that don't all make it to the mainstream. You can browse by story or just read the daily round-ups to keep your finger firmly on the filmic pulse. Hollywood.com also has a newsletter you can sign up for, so all those juicy titbits can wing their way straight to your Inbox.

A trustworthy place for season roundups, this is a good site to check if you want to know in advance what all the Christmas big-hitters will be. Though the standard of reviews is reasonable, this is not the best place to just enjoy some general movie-loving browsing. Use it to check out what Hollywood itself expects to be big, but trust other sites, and your own opinion, first.


HOLLYWOOD.COM
Isn't it time you went Hollywood?
Jeff Corwin
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CELEBRITIES
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VIDEO/DVD
MARKETPLACE
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Enter City OR
Zip Code
State
Sort Results
Within Miles
Movie
5
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membership
Newsletter
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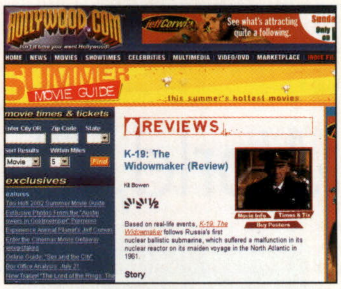
exclusives
Features
Members Only
GET FULL STORY
now showing

Mike Myers and the cast of "Austin Powers in Goldmember" reveal their favorite characters and work the mojo in our interviews.

new movies this week

- Austin Powers in Goldmember
- The Country Bears
- Happy Times
- I Am Trying to Break Your Heart
- The Kid Stays in the Picture
- More...

You'll find plenty to get excited about here


HOLLYWOOD.COM
Isn't it time you went Hollywood?
Jeff Corwin
See what's attracting quite a following.
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SHOWTIMES
CELEBRITIES
MULTIMEDIA
VIDEO/DVD
MARKETPLACE
SUMMER MOVIE GUIDE
this summer's hottest movies
movie times & tickets
Enter City OR
Zip Code
State
Sort Results
Within Miles
Movie
5
Find
exclusives
REVIEWS
Movie Info
Times & Tix
Buy Posters

K-19: The Widowmaker (Review)

Kit Bowen

Based on real-life events, K-19: The Widowmaker follows Russia's first nuclear ballistic submarine, which suffered a malfunction in its nuclear reactor on its maiden voyage in the North Atlantic in 1961.

Story

The season reviews will make sure you always know what's coming

The verdict

Content:	★★★☆☆
Extras:	★★★☆☆
Ease of use:	★★★★☆
Overall percentage:	**82%**

✓ Good coverage, independent section

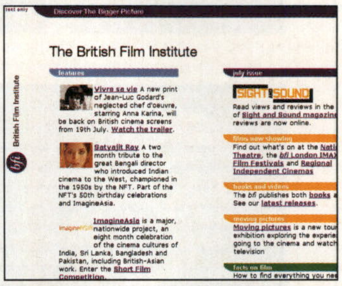
✗ High on gloss, low on opinion

British Film Institute

www.bfi.org.uk

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED in something a bit outside of the mainstream, this site from the British Film Institute is quite a read. And 'read' is the right word as it doesn't seem too keen on pictures – for a site about the cinema, this strikes us as a little odd. Neither is this a place to visit if you're interested in news or gossip. But, if you want a thoughtful reflection on movie themes or an in-depth look at a particular director or star, then there's no better place.

Plenty of Sight and Sound articles are available, which is great for cinephiles, but not likely to stimulate those for whom the cinema is as much about popcorn as it is about plot. You can use the site to find out where movies are playing, though, and if you're after a break for the guns and girls Hollywood formula, this is the site to find it for you.


text only
Discover The Bigger Picture
British Film Institute
bfi
features
july issue
SIGHT & SOUND
films now showing
books and videos
moving pictures
facts on film

The British Film Institute

Vivre sa vie A new print of Jean-Luc Godard's neglected chef d'oeuvre, starring Anna Karina, will be back on British cinema screens from 19th July. Watch the trailer.

Satyajit Ray A two month tribute to the great Bengali director who introduced Indian cinema to the West, championed in the 1950s by the NFT. Part of the NFT's 50th birthday celebrations and ImagineAsia.

ImagineAsia is a major, nationwide project, an eight month celebration of the cinema cultures of India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Pakistan, including British-Asian work. Enter the Short Film Competition.

Read views and reviews in the of Sight and Sound magazin reviews are now online.

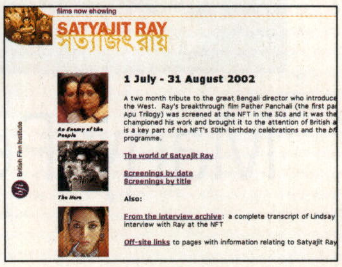
Find out what's on at the Nati Theatre, the bfi London IMAX Film Festivals and Regional Independent Cinemas

The bfi publishes both books a See our latest releases.

Moving pictures is a new tour exhibition exploring the experie going to the cinema and watch television

How to find everything you ne

Looking dry and factual, you'll find more to interest than you think


films now showing
SATYAJIT RAY
সত্যাজিৎ রায়
British Film Institute
bfi
An Enemy of the People
The Hero

1 July - 31 August 2002

A two month tribute to the great Bengali director who introduce the West. Ray's breakthrough film Pather Panchali (the first pa Apu Trilogy) was screened at the NFT in the 50s and it was the championed his work and brought it to the attention of British a is a key part of the NFT's 50th birthday celebrations and the bfi programme.

The world of Satyajit Ray

Screenings by date
Screenings by title

Also:

From the interview archive: a complete transcript of Lindsay interview with Ray at the NFT

Off-site links to pages with information relating to Satyajit Ray

Brush up on your film knowledge by reading some of the excellent in-depth features

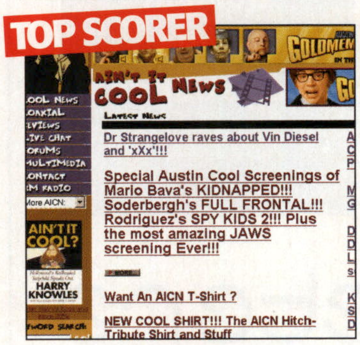
The verdict

Content:	★★★★☆
Extras:	★★☆☆☆
Ease of use:	★★★☆☆
Overall percentage:	**80%**

✓ Intelligent and interesting content

✗ Blunt presentation, tricky to navigate

TOP SCORER


GOLDMEMBER
AIN'T IT COOL NEWS
LATEST NEWS
COOL NEWS
COAXIAL
REVIEWS
LIVE CHAT
FORUMS
MULTIMEDIA
CONTACT
XM RADIO
More AICN:
AIN'T IT COOL?
HARRY KNOWLES
WORD SEARCH
MORE

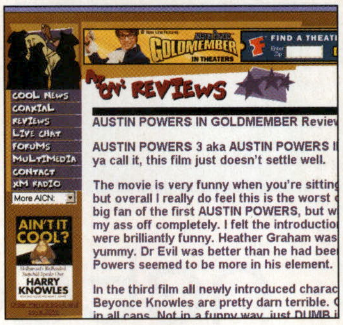
Dr Strangelove raves about Vin Diesel and 'xXx'!!!

Special Austin Cool Screenings of Mario Bava's KIDNAPPED!!! Soderbergh's FULL FRONTAL!!! Rodriguez's SPY KIDS 2!!! Plus the most amazing JAWS screening Ever!!!

Want An AICN T-Shirt ?

NEW COOL SHIRT!!! The AICN Hitch-Tribute Shirt and Stuff

Get all the gossip first with Ain't It Cool


GOLDMEMBER
IN THEATERS
FIND A THEATE
Enter Zip:
REVIEWS
COOL NEWS
COAXIAL
REVIEWS
LIVE CHAT
FORUMS
MULTIMEDIA
CONTACT
XM RADIO
More AICN:
AIN'T IT COOL?
HARRY KNOWLES

AUSTIN POWERS IN GOLDMEMBER Revie

AUSTIN POWERS 3 aka AUSTIN POWERS I ya call it, this film just doesn't settle well.

The movie is very funny when you're sittin but overall I really do feel this is the worst big fan of the first AUSTIN POWERS, but w my ass off completely. I felt the introductio were brilliantly funny. Heather Graham was yummy. Dr Evil was better than he had bee Powers seemed to be more in his element.

In the third film all newly introduced charac Beyonce Knowles are pretty darn terrible. in all caps. Not in a funny way, just DUMB i

Watch out for the film spoilers!

Ain't it Cool News

www.aint-it-cool-news.com

YOU HAVE NO idea who Ain't It Cool creator Harry Knowles is? Just think Comic Book Guy from *The Simpsons*, only with more embarrassing facial hair, and that's him. Way back in 1997, Knowles gained top-secret insider information on *Batman and Robin* and posted a damming review on Ain't It Cool. Everyone in the industry read it, lazy reviewers repeated his opinions – and the film bombed at the box office. Suddenly Hollywood was aware of the power of the Web. Sadly these days the movie studio yes-men sweeten Knowles up with cameos and set visits, so the big man has lost the bite to his criticism, if not his appetite for film.

The site also deals in the hot American TV shows, which means you can read what's happening in *Buffy* or *The West Wing* months before it airs over here. Lacking the intoxicating geek power it had in the late nineties, Knowles has not lost his love of all things celluloid, and this is still the best place for first reviews and scoops.

The verdict

Content:	★★★★★
Extras:	★★★★☆
Ease of use:	★★★★★
Overall percentage:	**95%**

✓ Real scoops, passionate reviews

✗ Annoying teen slang, ugly design

[SITE TEST]

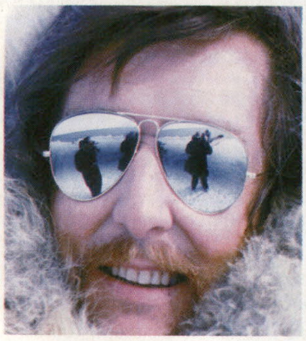
The end credits

THE MAGIC OF the movies brings everyone together and as the Internet becomes more and more integral to our lives, it's only fair that we can get our cinematic Scooby Snacks online as well as at the multiplex. There are some pretty decent sites out there, too. Ain't It Cool and Dark Horizons got high marks for breadth of information and the sheer number of scoops they both effortlessly mustered. Ain't It Cool came out on top, though, because it combines real personal opinion with all the film and TV news that one person could possibly need.

But of course, there are times when your needs are a little different and although they failed to scoop the highest marks, two sites are of particular note. If hard facts are required, you can't beat the IMDb, with its comprehensive search engine and masses of data. If, on the other hand, current and trendy reviews are what you need, Guardian Unlimited is the place to try.

Whatever sort of movie you like, though, and whatever kind of information you need, get online, get checking these sites out and you'll be gagging for Christmas and the fresh blockbuster season before you know it.

They made you believe a man could fly, but what Internet sites give you the inside story?



Many People, One World, **One Host.**

Web Hosting

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eCommerce

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SHARED HOSTING.
Home. 100Mb £60pa
Commerce.
200Mb: ASP, SSL
£18pm or £180pa
Reseller.
Host Unlimited Domains
ASP, SSL
£45pm or £450pa
Enterprise.
Mirrored, load-balanced
Servers1000Mb
£120pm or £1,200pa

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Microsoft Windows 2000/NT
based Web Services running IIS
Web Based Control Panel
Microsoft FrontPage 2002
Server Extensions
FREE Domain Name Registration
or Transfer
30 Day Money Back Guarantee
FREE dial-up access
Telephone/EMail Technical
Support

DEDICATED HOSTING.
Gold
600Mhz, 128Mb, 10Gb Drive
£200pm or £2,000pa
Diamond
700 Mhz, 256Mb, 2x9Gb SCSI
£300pm or £3,000pa
Platinum
850 Mhz, 512Mb, 2x18Gb SCSI
£400pm or £4,000pa

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Same day set-up
No Minimum Contract
No Set-up fee
Secure InterHouse based
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CREATE YOUR OWN USER-CONTROLLED MEDIA PLAYER WITH FLASH MX – P58

NEW!

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO BUILD STUNNING SITES

Webmaster

■ IN-DEPTH FEATURES ■ STEP-BY-STEP WORKSHOPS ■ HAND-CODING MASTERCLASS

Welcome…

A WARM WELCOME to the first ever Webmaster section. This is the part of the magazine which aims to kit you out with all the knowledge you'll need to become a demon designer.

Whether you just want a quick fix to your site, or would rather get your hands dirty with advanced code, you'll find something to please.

And don't worry if you're new to the whole game, for we have a six-page special on Dreamweaver MX, as well as a beginners' guide to HTML.

Anyway, I hope you enjoy Webmaster. If you have any issues you'd like us to cover, email me at **thomas@paragon.co.uk**.

Thomas Watson, Technical Editor

What's inside…

48 How did they do that? The Gola site was a mixed bag for the team behind it. We ask why

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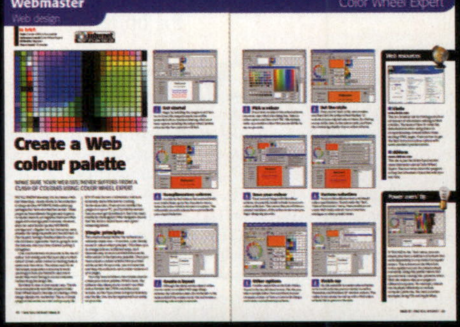
68 Hand-coding: PHP Discover how to validate any credit card with this easy to use code

70 Web design Q&A Do you have a Photoshop phobia? James Seabright will sort you out

Dreamweaver MX

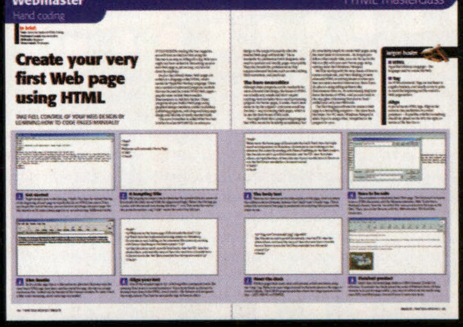
BUILD A GREAT NAVIGATION-FRIENDLY SITE WITH THE WYSIWYG KING STARTS ON P52

Also in Webmaster this issue…



Webmaster
Web design
Color Wheel Expert
Create a Web colour palette

Make sure your site's colours are compatible with all browsers using the excellent Color Wheel Expert



Webmaster
Hand coding
HTML masterclass
Create your very first Web page using HTML

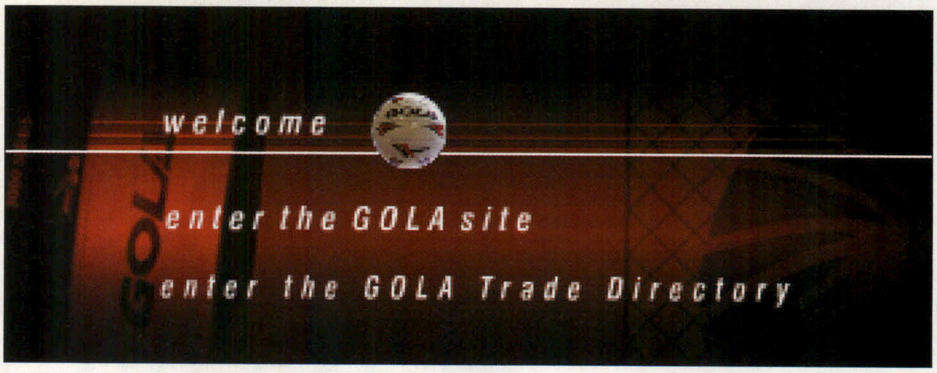
Many people avoid hand coding through sheer terror. We take you right back to the beginning, with the first part of our HTML guide

How we built

LATECOMERS TO THE WEB PARTY, GOLA EXPECTED SOMETHING SPECIAL, AS **THOMAS WATSON** FOUND OUT

When the Gola site launched around a year ago, you might be surprised to learn that this was the sportswear manufacturer's first Web presence. And we're not talking about some bedroom operation here – Gola used to sponsor the fictitious Melchester Rovers in Roy of the Rovers comic, so it's a company that really knows how to target a specific audience. This tardiness in joining the Web revolution may have spelt embarrassment for the Gola executives, but it only promised creation nirvana for the eventual site designers, The Design House.

"To be honest with you, Gola felt they needed to do something special because it was starting to get embarrassing for them." The Design House founder Graham Walsh mentions this with a lack of despair, mainly because his company was the recipient of a near dream brief. "The whole look and feel of the site was down to us," he asserts. "We could really let our imaginations run wild." Were there no caveats to this free reign? "Well, we obviously had to stick to the Gola corporate look, and the Managing Director was keen to have a ball crashing through glass at the start of the site, but apart from that, no," maintains Walsh.

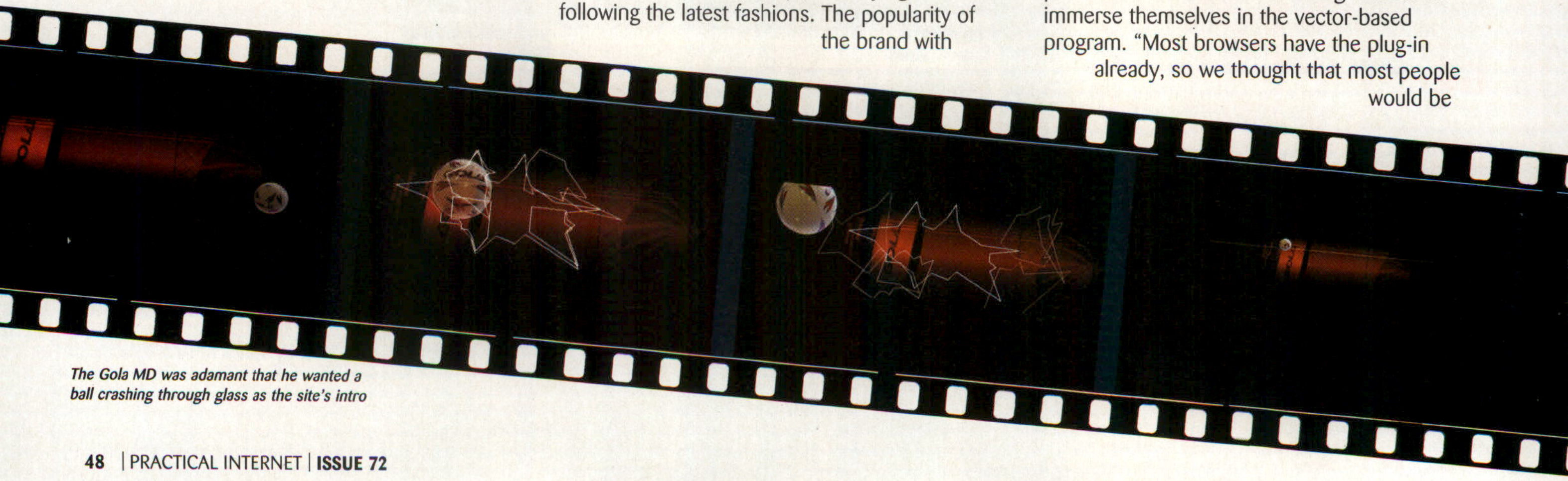


The main Gola page is the perfect example of Flash simplicity

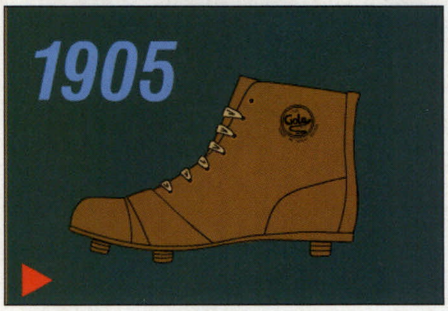
Market research

According to Walsh, the team at Gola understood that their sportswear firm would never be Premier League, but were worried that the company was nowhere near where it should be in the marketplace. "They're aiming to be top of division one." So, how does this relate to Web design? Well, hold on and we'll explain. The target market for Gola is either young children who don't care about the name on their trainers, or married men who are past worrying about following the latest fashions. The popularity of the brand with schoolchildren meant that The Design House knew exactly how to proceed.

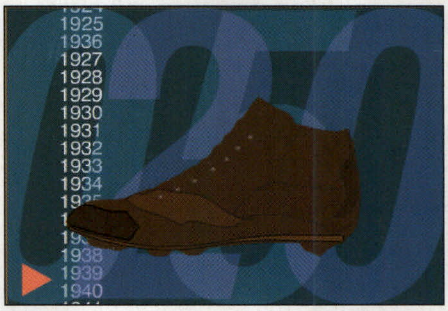
"Kids are so used to playing PS2s, that the site just had to be all-singing, all-dancing," comments Graham Walsh. This influenced the extensive use of Flash throughout the site, and persuaded the team at The Design House to immerse themselves in the vector-based program. "Most browsers have the plug-in already, so we thought that most people would be



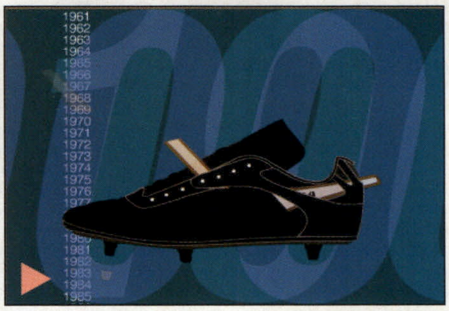
The Gola MD was adamant that he wanted a ball crashing through glass as the site's intro



The 'heritage' section of the site contains a boot morphing from 1905 to the current day. This is the opening frame of it



Midway through the animation, and the boot has changed completely. The numbers in the background represent years



Near the end, the boot has changed again. This took the team two days to complete, and is one of the best pages on the site

able to access the images. You have to know when to use Flash on a site – we have a banking client, and we wouldn't even consider using Flash for their site."

The perennial problem is one of time, though – nobody wants to visit a site that's going to take five minutes to load on their machine, no matter how archaic their hardware is. This means that the Gola site is a mixture of plain HTML, database-driven code and Flash, primarily so that page loading times aren't sent into orbit. "We use Flash discreetly – you have to remember that not everybody has broadband," states Graham Walsh, then explains one of the defining factors of The Design House's Web techniques. "We always try to get all of our pages to download in 7-10 seconds on a 56Kb modem."

Given the boot

With a fair amount of Flash on the site, you shouldn't be surprised to learn that the most time-consuming elements of the three-month job involved Macromedia's stunning design package. "The heritage section of the site includes an old boot morphing into a new one, showing the history of Gola. It's only a few seconds worth, but it was two days solid animating for us." Interestingly, The Design House shipped out the most complex element of the site straight away. "We didn't want to spend weeks doing it, and knew that the company we chose could do it much quicker than we could. Everything else on the site was down to us, though."

GOLA
0
1
Skip Intro

The interactive football game was contracted out to another company, so that The Design House could concentrate on the site

One of the more unusual uses of Flash sees the odd melody played through the browser. As amateur Web designers weaned on the principle that a good site should be seen and not heard, we were surprised. Graham Walsh explains: "As long as music isn't overdone, then it's okay. We were very keen to monitor the file size, though, as people have limited bandwidth. We used a fairly simple looped track." And you probably haven't heard the last of the big sounds from The Design House, either. "Flash MX is very exciting, as it gives you all kinds of multimedia options that you didn't have before. It allows you to do some amazing things with video."

> **"WE ALWAYS ADVISE PEOPLE TO SET ASIDE SOME OF THEIR WEB BUDGET FOR MAINTENANCE"**
>
> **GRAHAM WALSH, THE DESIGN HOUSE**

Stuck in time

Pop along to the Gola site, however, and you'll notice that something isn't quite right. Primarily, this is down to the fact that the site hasn't really been updated for around a year. As the man who masterminded the creation of the site in the first place, this neglect doesn't please Graham Walsh. "The guy we deal with at Gola is so busy that he simply doesn't have time to generate new content for us to factor in and upload. People don't like to see the same content on different visits to the same site. It makes all of us look bad."

Walsh asserts that companies who neglect to upload regularly think that they're saving money, but have actually piled cash into the design of a site that'll have no returns whatsoever. "We write CMS packages to make updating easier for our clients, but some of them just don't want this. We always advise people to set aside some of their Web budget on maintenance. At the end of the day, though, it's down to the customer. We provide a service – we don't work for nothing, after all."

So, is Walsh proud of The Design House's input into the Gola site? "To be honest with you, we designed the site as a showcase for our talents, as much as anything else. We wanted to sell our services from it." He maintains that the site was cutting edge when it was first created, but so many other sites have made use of the same principles that it's now less eye-catching. Unsurprisingly, he comments that The Design House would love to get their teeth into the site again to give it a really good revamp. Now, if only Gola would update its site more often, then everything would be perfect in the garden of The Design House. ■

classic
bags
Gola News
Gola Heritage
Gola Interactive
Gola TV
Gola Gear
Gola Classics
Contact Gola
Trade Section

Retro bags like this are big news in the world of fashion, and Gola includes many pages devoted to its latest old-style products

TIME SCALE

July 1996	May 2000	February 2001	March 2001	June 2001
The Design House set up as a traditional print design studio	Graham Walsh sells the company to a London plc, but remains MD	Gola invites The Design House to tender for the design of its first site	The Design House begins work on the project after winning the contract	The first ever Gola site is uploaded

Site stats

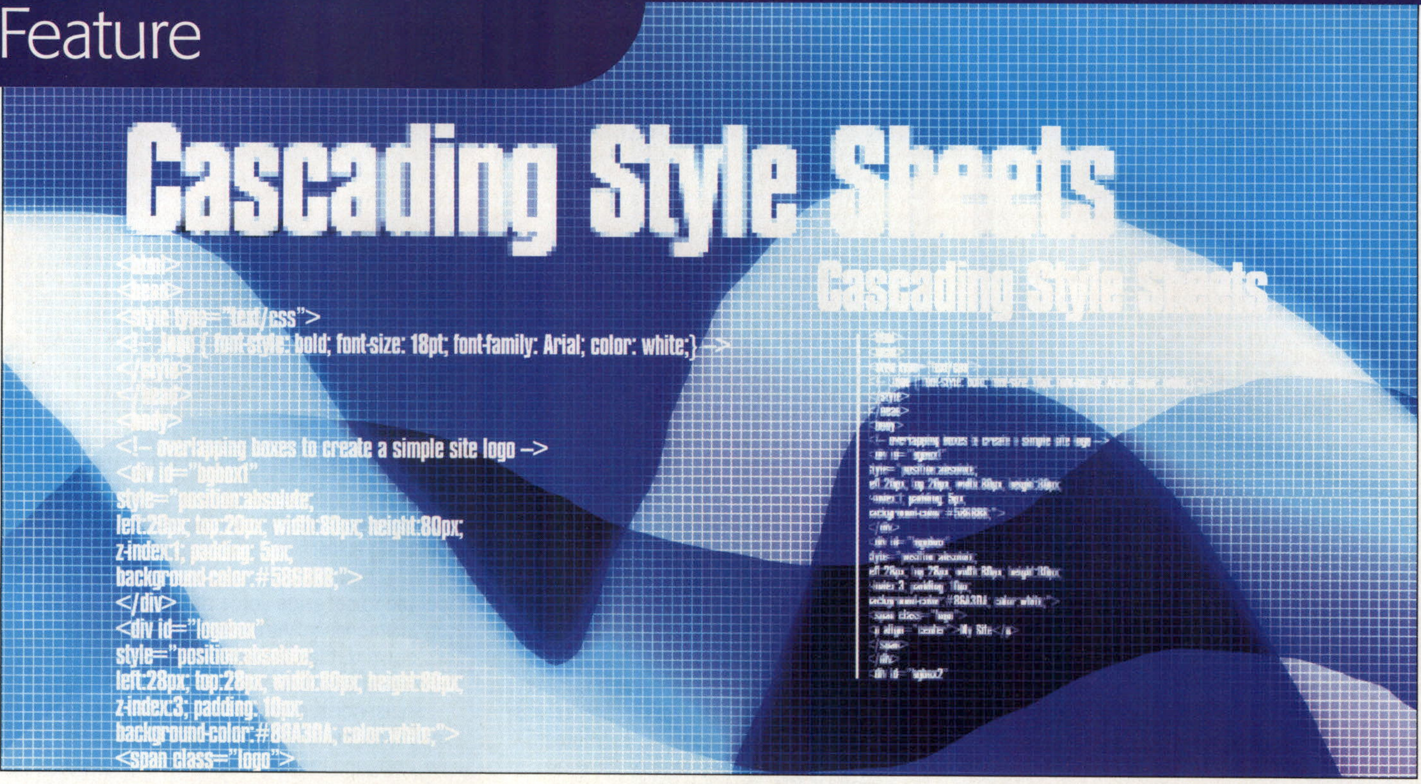
Gola
www.gola.co.uk

■ **Who designed it?**
The Design House

■ **How many people were involved in the beginning?**
Five

■ **Time taken?**
Three months

■ **Software used?**
Access 2000, ASP, HTML, Flash


Cascading Style Sheets
Cascading Style Sheets
<style type="text/css">
<!-- logo { font-style: bold; font-size: 18pt; font-family: Arial; color: white;} -->
<!-- overlapping boxes to create a simple site logo -->
<div id="bgbox1"
style="position:absolute;
left:20px; top:20px; width:80px; height:80px;
z-index:1; padding: 5px;
background-color:#5868B8;">
</div>
<div id="logobox"
style="position:absolute;
left:28px; top:28px; width:80px; height:80px;
z-index:3; padding: 10px;
background-color:#88A38A; color:white;">
<span class="logo">

An introduction to Cascading Style Sheets

PUSH YOUR TABLES ASIDE, FLICK YOUR FONT TAGS INTO TOUCH, AND TAKE GREATER CONTROL OF YOUR WEB PAGE LAYOUTS WITH STYLE SHEETS…

Even if you've never heard of Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) before, chances are you've already visited dozens of sites that use them. CSS work in conjunction with HTML and control various design and layout attributes of a Web page: from font attributes to placing a picture in the exact pixel location on the page.

As with anything technological, though, you can't have your cake without a sprinkling of caveats on top. For a start, some Web browsers handle CSS rules slightly differently from others (and old browsers won't recognise them at all). Fortunately, the latest incarnations of Internet Explorer and Netscape Navigator are relatively free of such provisos, but it is the erudite designer who thoroughly checks his or her site in as many conditions as possible before publishing it.

Writing CSS

Rather than using the angled brackets of HTML, style sheets encapsulate their 'rules' using curly braces, with each of the 'declarations' (the attributes) separated by semi-colons, and their 'values' presented after colons. For example:

```
p {color: black; font-size: 10pt; font-family:
Arial; font-style: italic; }
```

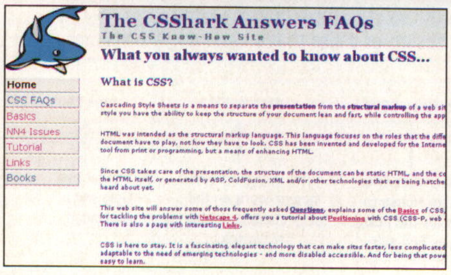
This rule states that all the text between the paragraph <p> tag (which is called the 'selector') in an HTML document will be formatted in 10 point, blue, italicised Arial font. The selector can be any existing HTML tag that you want to redefine, such as a heading <Hn>, table cell <td>, the entire body text <body>, or even a formatting tag such as bold <b> or italic <i>. This method ensures that all instances of text within that tag will take on the style. The advantage to programming it this way is that it makes your pages compatible with older browsers that do not support CSS. This is because there will at least be some structuring present, even if the Style Sheets are ignored.

If you prefer to leave the existing HTML tags intact, there are two other types of selectors that you can choose from: class and ID. Class selectors are like a way of defining your own formatting mark-up tag and, like HTML tags, are completely reusable in a document. When you define a class, its name must be prefixed with a period (this is omitted when applying the style within the document):

```
.myownstyle { color: blue; font-size: 20
point; font-style: bold }
```

ID selectors may only be used once in an HTML page, so they're not really suited to text

Prime example of CSS


The CSShark Answers FAQs

The CSS Know-How Site

What you always wanted to know about CSS...

Home
CSS FAQs
Basics
NN4 Issues
Tutorial
Links
Books

What is CSS?

Cascading Style Sheets is a means to separate the **presentation** from the **structural markup** of a web si
style you have the ability to keep the structure of your document lean and fast, while controlling the app

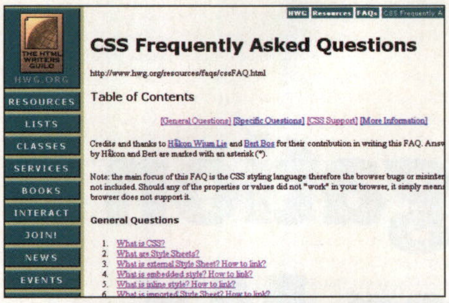
HTML was intended as the structural markup language. This language focuses on the roles that the diffe
document have to play, not how they have to look. CSS has been invented and developed for the Interne
tool from print or programming, but a means of enhancing HTML.

Since CSS takes care of the presentation, the structure of the document can be static HTML, and the c
the HTML itself, or generated by ASP, ColdFusion, XML and/or other technologies that are being hatche
heard about yet.

This web site will answer some of those frequently asked Questions, explains some of the Basics of CSS,
for tackling the problems with Netscape 4, offers you a tutorial about Positioning with CSS (CSS-P, web
There is also a page with interesting Links.

CSS is here to stay. It is a fascinating, elegant technology that can make sites faster, less complicated
adaptable to the need of emerging technologies - and more disabled accessible. And for being that pow
easy to learn.

Name: The CSShark FAQ
URL: www.mako4css.com
As well as being an excellent source of information on how to program CSS, with examples and tutorials in abundance, it also happens to be a wonderful example of what you can do with the technology. It features pop-up layers, 3D styled navigation bars (all achieved through Style Sheets), plus a list of links for other CSS-enabled Web sites to inspire you.



CSS Frequently Asked Questions

http://www.hwg.org/resources/faqs/cssFAQ.html

Table of Contents

[General Questions] [Specific Questions] [CSS Support] [More Information]

Credits and thanks to Håkon Wium Lie and Bert Bos for their contribution in writing this FAQ. Answ by Håkon and Bert are marked with an asterisk (*).

Note: the main focus of this FAQ is the CSS styling language therefore the browser bugs or misinter not included. Should any of the properties or values did not "work" in your browser, it simply mean browser does not support it.

General Questions

1. What is CSS?
2. What are Style Sheets?
3. What is external Style Sheet? How to link?
4. What is embedded style? How to link?
5. What is inline style? How to link?
6. What is imported Style Sheet? How to link?

*Visit the HTML Writers Guild at **www.hwg.org/resources/faqs/cssFAQ.html** for pretty much everything you need to know about Cascading Style Sheets*

formatting. Instead, IDs are primarily used for creating layers (in which case, they are not defined in the <head> part of a Web page), or for defining entire objects.

How it works

There are three places where you can define your CSS: linking from an external file; within the document's header; or in-line within the code itself. The first method involves creating a simple ASCII text file (saved with a **.css** file extension) with all the formatting definitions listed. This file is linked by adding a line in the header of each Web page document where you want the styles to be applied:

```
<head><link
rel="stylesheet"
href="mystyle.css" type="text/css"></head>
```

In the above example, mystyle.css is the name of your Style Sheet. An external file lets you apply a style to your entire Web site, so any redesigns can be applied in a jiffy.

Specific formatting

The second method is to define the styles within the header of the Web page. You would include similar mark-up as you would in an external file between the opening and closing <head> tags, except that now the definitions are specific only to that page. This instance of a CSS is best for when you have page-specific text formatting:

```
<head>
<style type="text/css">
<!-- .boxout { font-family: Arial, Helvetica,
sans-serif;
font-size: 8pt; font-style: normal; color:
#003399 }
-->
</style>
</head>
```

Whether you are defining your styles within the document header, or in an external file, the way you apply them to a block of text is exactly the same. What is different is whether your selector is an existing HTML tag, or you have created your own class. If you have done the former, all you need to do is to use the tag as normal, and the text within its opening and closing braces will be formatted in the style. If you are using a class selector, you need to add its name to the mark-up's tag:

```
<p class="boxout">This text will be formatted
in the .boxout style</p>
```

Finally, it is possible to define a style within the actual page mark-up, much as you would a normal <font> tag, applying it to a whole passage of text, or even to individual words. All you need to do is add your style declaration to an existing mark-up tag:

```
<p style="background-color: black; color:
white; font-size: 14pt;">This 14 point text will
appear in white on a black background.</p>
```

So that you don't have to use a tag like <p> which has its own inherent formatting (adding blank lines before and after the paragraph it encapsulates), there are two generic tags that you can use instead. These are <span> and <div>. The latter is a block element, much like <p> except that it doesn't add those irritating spaces between the paragraphs. However, it does still affect the text formatting, in that it puts the text in between the tags on a new line. Span, which was exclusively created for use with Style Sheets can be used in-line, and has no effect on the structuring of the text:

> "USING CSS REALLY DOES OPEN UP A WEALTH OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR WEB DESIGNERS"

```
<div class="mystyle">This styled text will
appear on a new line from the previous page
element</div>
```

However, this line will style just these words, and not those outside of the tags. It will all appear on the one line.

You can actually use any combination of any of the above ways to define styles in your document, but it is important to note that these definitions have a priority structure. In-line styles have a higher precedence than those defined in the document's header, or in an external file. However, even this characteristic can be over-ridden by stressing the importance of style, quite literally: h2 {font-style: italic ! important; }

Stick it anywhere

While formatting text is undoubtedly the most popular use for Cascading Style Sheets, they are capable of much more besides. You can actually use CSS to position block elements on a page with absolute precision. This is opposed to the usual method where, unless you regiment your pages with tables, the positioning of your elements are at the whim and mercy of the browser window.

Because you can place a block element anywhere on the page, you can overlap them, too. Which ones sit on top of the others depends on the z-index value you assign to them, with the lowest on the bottom of the pile. See the box out below for an example of how to utilise the ID selector to create layered effects.

This is just a taster of what you can achieve with CSS. It really does open up a wealth of opportunities for Web designers. If you have a working knowledge of HTML, you can pick up the CSS syntax in moments. Then again, packages such as Dreamweaver and GoLive support CSS anyway, so you've no excuse not to start experimenting with this versatile technology today. ■

Create layers with CSS

CREATING FLOATING LAYERS using Cascading Style Sheets is an excellent way to circumvent the rigidity of HTML authoring. They let you overlap text onto pictures and suchlike, much as you would do with a desktop publishing package. Below is an example of how to create layers. Notice that the order in which your layers appear doesn't matter as long as you include a value for the z-index (higher values are on top).

```
<html>
<head>
<style type="text/css">
<!-- .logo { font-style: bold; font-size: 18pt;
font-family: Arial; color: white;} -->
</style>
</head>
<body>
<!-- overlapping boxes to create a simple site
logo -->
<div id="bgbox1"
    style="position:absolute;
    left:20px; top:20px; width:80px;
height:80px;
    z-index:1; padding: 5px;
    background-color:#586BBB;">
</div>
<div id="logobox"
    style="position:absolute;
    left:28px; top:28px; width:80px;
height:80px;
    z-index:3; padding: 10px;
    background-color:#86A3DA;
color:white;">
    <span class="logo">
    <p align="center">My Site</p>
    </span>
</div>
<div id="bgbox2"
    style="position:absolute;
    left:36px; top:36px; width:80px;
height:80px;
    z-index:2; padding: 5px;
    background-color:#A2C5ED;">
</div>
</body>
</html>
```

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In brief:
Task: Build a navigation friendly site using frames
Software I need: Dreamweaver MX
Difficulty: Intermediate
Time I need: A few hours

Practical Internet IT'S ON THE CD

Perfect your navigation with Dreamweaver MX

A LARGE SITE DOESN'T NEED TO HAVE MILLIONS OF PAGES. WITH INTELLIGENT USE OF FRAMES, YOU CAN EASILY HOUSE YOUR ENTIRE SITE ON ONE PAGE

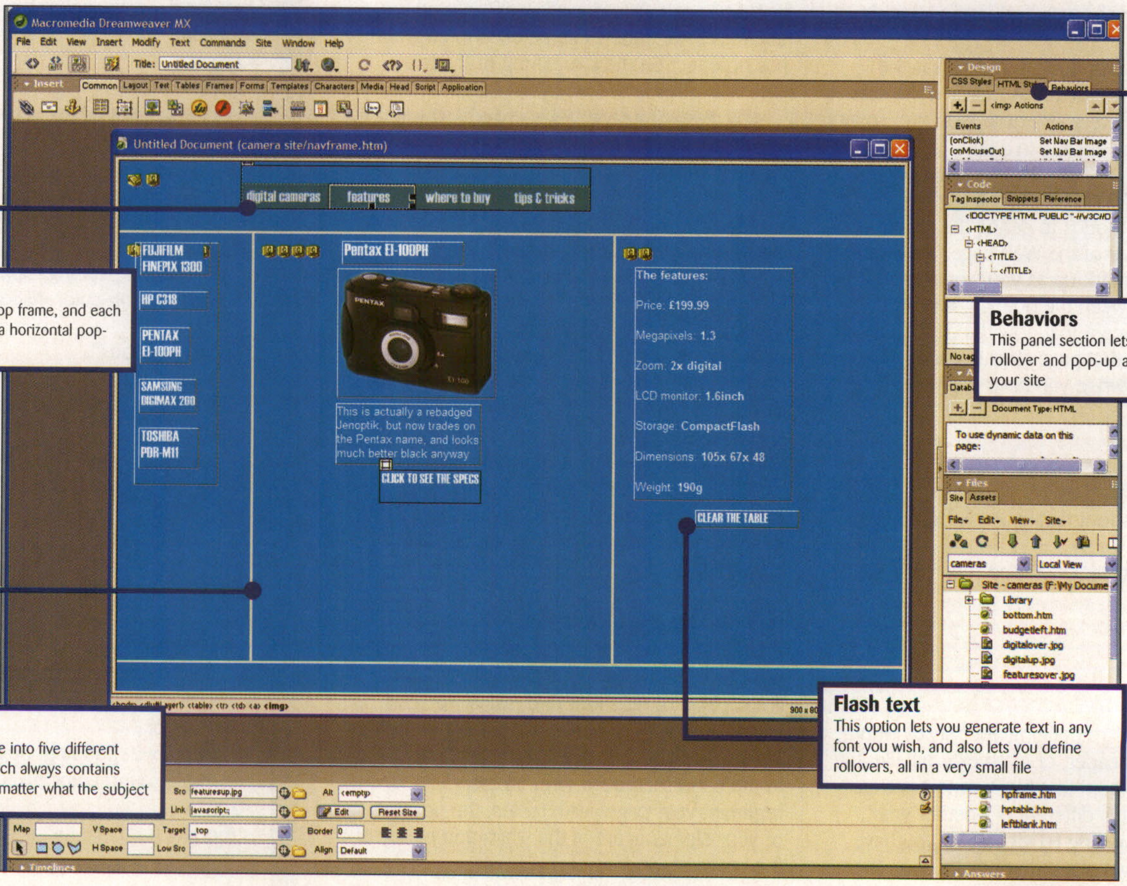
CONVENTIONAL WEB WISDOM states that each page of your Web site should be a separate entity, and that this is the easiest and most sensible way of easing navigation woes. It makes sense really – each page can contain a series of links to other pages within the site, and everything is clearly defined.

Conventional wisdom is rubbish, though. A site with loads of pages might seem like a good idea, but it means that visitors are in for a hefty wait any time they click on a link. And there's always the problem that you've got to redesign each and every page individually, which can soon become a pain.

As an alternative, we'd like to suggest that you create your entire site on just one page, using the excellent Dreamweaver MX. Don't worry – this doesn't mean transferring all of your site's elements onto one monster page that will take an age to scroll through. Using frames, it's possible to set each section of the site to load up in a different part of the page. This way, you can ensure that your navigation bar never leaves the screen, and that only specific sections need to be loaded. If you have four frames, and a link in the first frame leads to information on the third frame, it's only the third frame that will ever need to be changed. The result is a faster Web site that has a dream navigation system.

The guided tour

The single page Dreamweaver MX site laid bare


Macromedia Dreamweaver MX
File Edit View Insert Modify Text Commands Site Window Help
Title: Untitled Document
Insert
Common Layout Text Tables Frames Forms Templates Characters Media Head Script Application
Untitled Document (camera site/navframe.htm)
digital cameras
features
where to buy
tips & tricks
FUJIFILM FINEPIX 1300
HP C318
PENTAX EI-100PH
SAMSUNG DIGIMAX 200
TOSHIBA PDR-M11
Pentax EI-100PH
CLICK TO SEE THE SPECS
CLEAR THE TABLE
Design
CSS Styles HTML Styles Behaviors
Events Actions
Code
Tag Inspector Snippets Reference
Files
Site Assets
File Edit View Site
cameras
Local View
Library
bottom.htm
budgetleft.htm
digitalover.jpg
digitalup.jpg
featuresover.jpg
hpframe.htm
hptable.htm
leftblank.htm
Timelines
Answers

The features:
Price: £199.99
Megapixels: 1.3
Zoom: 2x digital
LCD monitor: 1.6inch
Storage: CompactFlash
Dimensions: 105x 67x 48
Weight: 190g

This is actually a rebadged Jenoptik, but now trades on the Pentax name, and looks much better black anyway

(onClick) Set Nav Bar Image
(onMouseOut) Set Nav Bar Image

Src featuresup.jpg
Alt <empty>
Link javascript:;
Target _top
Border 0
Align Default

Navigation bar
Our nav bar sits in the top frame, and each of the buttons contains a horizontal pop-up menu

Behaviors
This panel section lets you see all of the rollover and pop-up action for buttons on your site

Frames
We've split our page into five different frames, each of which always contains similar content, no matter what the subject

Flash text
This option lets you generate text in any font you wish, and also lets you define rollovers, all in a very small file

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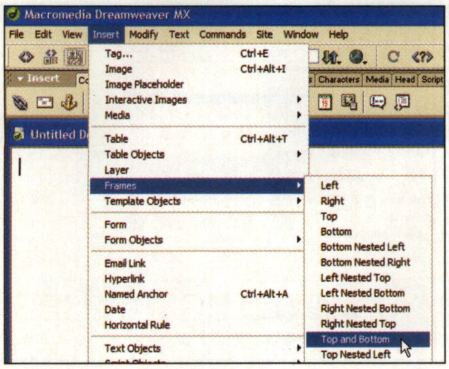
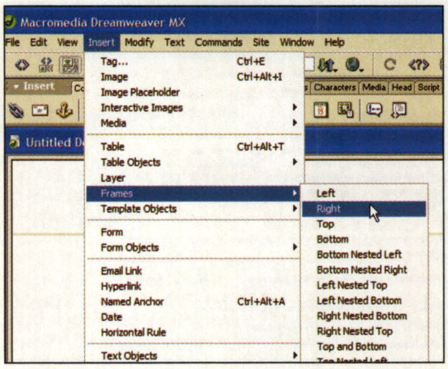

Macromedia Dreamweaver MX
File Edit View Insert Modify Text Commands Site Window Help
Tag... Ctrl+E
Image Ctrl+Alt+I
Image Placeholder
Interactive Images
Media
Table Ctrl+Alt+T
Table Objects
Layer
Frames
Template Objects
Form
Form Objects
Email Link
Hyperlink
Named Anchor Ctrl+Alt+A
Date
Horizontal Rule
Text Objects
Left
Right
Top
Bottom
Bottom Nested Left
Bottom Nested Right
Left Nested Top
Left Nested Bottom
Right Nested Bottom
Right Nested Top
Top and Bottom
Top Nested Left

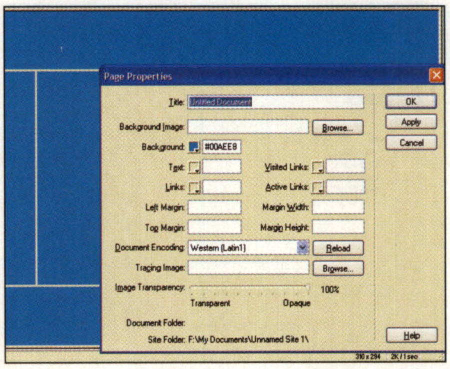
1 Create new frames

The first thing to do is generate frames so that we can better control where all of the elements go. First up, go to 'Insert', then 'Frames', then choose 'Top and bottom' to apply frames to the top and bottom of the page.


Macromedia Dreamweaver MX
File Edit View Insert Modify Text Commands Site Window Help
Tag... Ctrl+E
Image Ctrl+Alt+I
Image Placeholder
Interactive Images
Media
Table Ctrl+Alt+T
Table Objects
Layer
Frames
Template Objects
Form
Form Objects
Email Link
Hyperlink
Named Anchor Ctrl+Alt+A
Date
Horizontal Rule
Text Objects
Left
Right
Top
Bottom
Bottom Nested Left
Bottom Nested Right
Left Nested Top
Left Nested Bottom
Right Nested Bottom
Right Nested Top
Top and Bottom

2 More frames

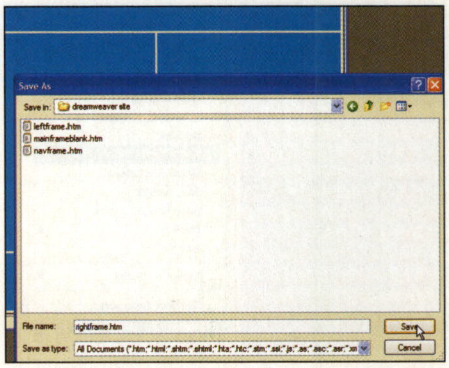
Using the same principle, generate frames for the left and right-hand side of the page, making sure you're working within the blank space between the top and bottom frames. You can now adjust the position of your new frames.


Page Properties
OK
Apply
Cancel
Browse...
Reload
Browse...
Help
Transparent
Opaque
310 x 294 2K / 1 sec

Title: Untitled Document
Background Image:
Background: #00AEE8
Text:
Visited Links:
Links:
Active Links:
Left Margin:
Margin Width:
Top Margin:
Margin Height:
Document Encoding: Western (Latin1)
Tracing Image:
Image Transparency: 100%
Document Folder:
Site Folder: F:\My Documents\Unnamed Site 1\

3 Change the colours

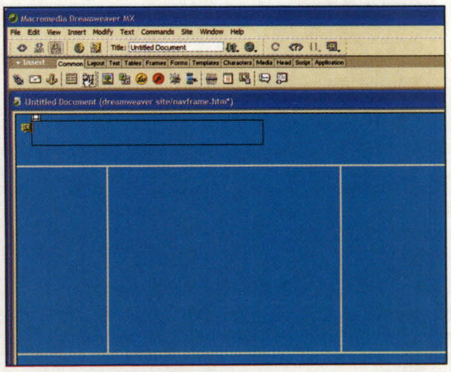
Now click on each frame in turn, then press 'CTRL' + 'J' to bring up the Page Properties box. Change the background using the appropriate option, then repeat for the rest of your frames, so that they're all the same colour.


Save As
Save
Cancel

Save in: dreamweaver site
leftframe.htm
mainframeblank.htm
navframe.htm
File name: rightframe.htm
Save as type: All Documents (*.htm;*.html;*.shtm;*.shtml;*.hta;*.htc;*.stm;*.ssi;*.js;*.as;*.asc;*.asr;*.xn

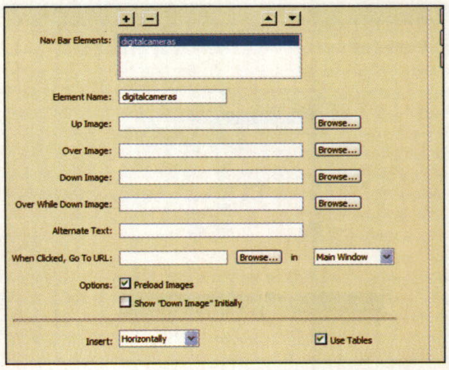
4 Save frames as

Click any frame and go to 'File' and choose 'Save Frame as'. This lets you create a blank version of each frame, and will act as the default version of the frame later on. Repeat this for all frames, so that you have four HTML files saved.


Macromedia Dreamweaver MX
File Edit View Insert Modify Text Commands Site Window Help
Title: Untitled Document
Insert
Common Layout Text Tables Frames Forms Templates Characters Media Head Script Application
Untitled Document (dreamweaver site/navframe.htm*)

5 A new layer

We're going to include a navigation bar with pop-ups in the top frame. It's easiest to use layers for this purpose. Click on the 'Layer' icon in the main toolbar, then draw a layer box in the top frame, as shown above.

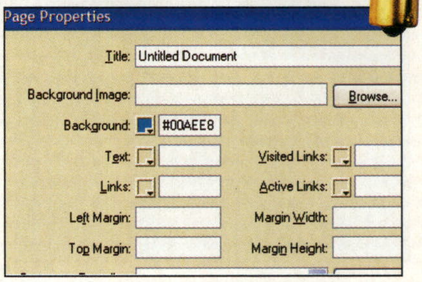

+
-
Browse...
Browse...
Browse...
Browse...
Browse...

Nav Bar Elements: digitalcameras
Element Name: digitalcameras
Up Image:
Over Image:
Down Image:
Over While Down Image:
Alternate Text:
When Clicked, Go To URL: in Main Window
Options: ☑ Preload Images
☐ Show "Down Image" Initially
Insert: Horizontally ☑ Use Tables

6 First navigational steps

Go to 'Insert', 'Interactive images', then choose 'Navigation bar'. In the box that appears, enter a name for the first nav button. This will never be seen by the visitor, so enter a name that will identify the button to you more easily.

Power users' tip


Page Properties
Browse...

Title: Untitled Document
Background Image:
Background: #00AEE8
Text:
Visited Links:
Links:
Active Links:
Left Margin:
Margin Width:
Top Margin:
Margin Height:

SORTING OUT COLOURS for your site can be a nightmare. Just when you thought you'd found the perfect shade of blue, you're asked to generate the same colour for every new element you introduce. Unless you have the best eyes in the world, you're bound to lose out in some way. Even using the colour picker results in less than perfect colour matches. The best method of matching colours is to take note of the hexadecimal number that defines your perfect colour – it contains six figures, and can be either numbers or letters. You can find this within the colour palette tools, and is the only way to ensure perfect colours throughout your site.

Jargon buster

Frame

This is the method used by most Web design applications to let you split your pages up into smaller sections. The main advantage of using frames is that they allow you to completely differentiate between the separate parts of the same page. This means you don't have to redesign the entire page whenever you want to make a change to a single element, and also makes for a smaller, more easily manageable Web site.

Frameset

Having split your Web pages up into smaller sections, it would be folly to lose all of your formatting when you upload it. A frameset is the way that you store all the frame position information relating to your Web pages. Basically, a frameset is an HTML file that contains page-formatting information, and tells your browser exactly where each frame should start and end.

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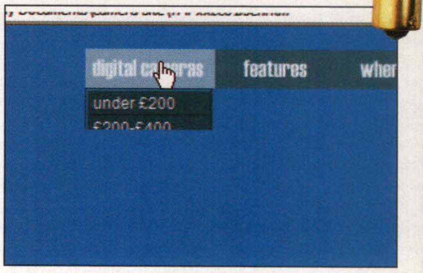
Power users' tip


digital cameras
features
wher
under £200
£200-£400

YOU'LL NOTICE THAT we've used a horizontal pop-up menu on our site. This is because we want the top frame to be as small as possible, giving us more room to play with in the main frames, where all the juicy information and pictures will be displayed. You can include a vertical pop-up, which is the more standard version of the pop-up menu anyway. One thing to note, though, is that the bottom of the menu will be chopped off if the top frame isn't large enough to incorporate it. Test it out in your browser, then make the necessary adjustments to the frame.

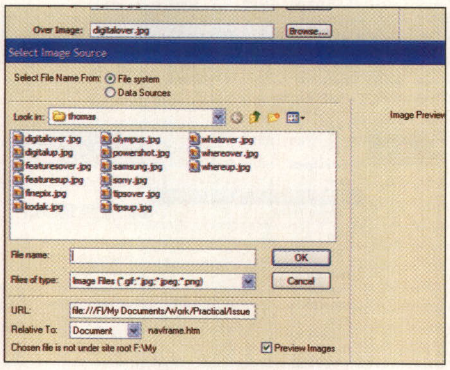
Web resources

macromedia
PRODUCTS
SUPPORT
DESIGNER & DEVELOPER
DOWNLOADS
macromedia
DREAMWEAVER MX
Application Development Center
Trio Motor Company (A Fictional Company)
Record Store: Building Your First Web Application in Dreamweaver MX
SAMPLE APPS
DREAMWEAVER EXTREME
WHITE PAPERS

■ Dreamweaver MX Application Development Center

www.macromedia.com/desdev/mx/dreamweaver

Macromedia has a host of information on its site devoted to helping you get the most from Dreamweaver MX. By far the best section of this massive site, however, is the Dreamweaver MX Application Development Center. Rubbish name, great resource. If you ever need to know more than the standard fayre, this is the place to come. Unless you have an aversion to learning, this site should have everything you need to turn yourself into a Dreamweaver MX winner.



Over Image: digitalover.jpg

Select File Name From: ● File system ○ Data Sources

Look in: thomas

File name:

Files of type: Image Files (*.gif;*.jpg;*.jpeg;*.png)

URL: file:///F|/My Documents/Work/Practical/Issue

Relative To: Document navframe.htm

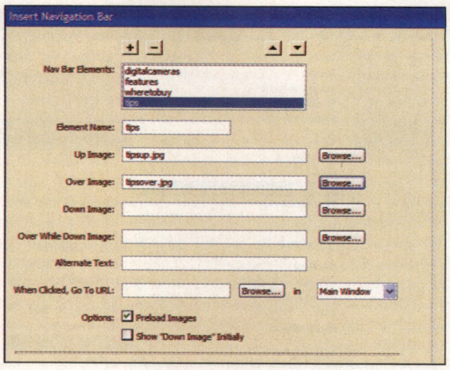
Chosen file is not under site root F:\My

☑ Preview Images

Browse...
Select Image Source
digitalover.jpg
digitalup.jpg
featuresover.jpg
featuresup.jpg
finepix.jpg
kodak.jpg
olympus.jpg
powershot.jpg
samsung.jpg
sony.jpg
tipsover.jpg
tipsup.jpg
whatover.jpg
whereover.jpg
whereup.jpg
Image Preview
OK
Cancel

7 Button images

A navigation button is nothing without an image to go with it, so click on the Up Image 'Browse' button, then navigate your hard drive to find the relevant image. Repeat this for the Over state, so that you have a rollover button in place.



Insert Navigation Bar

Nav Bar Elements: digitalcameras, features, wheretobuy, tips

Element Name: tips

Up Image: tipsup.jpg

Over Image: tipsover.jpg

Down Image:

Over While Down Image:

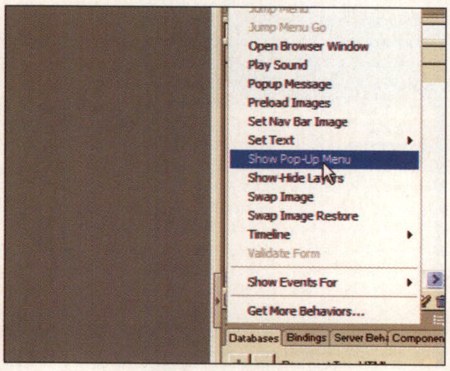
Alternate Text:

When Clicked, Go To URL: in Main Window

Options: ☑ Preload Images ☐ Show "Down Image" Initially

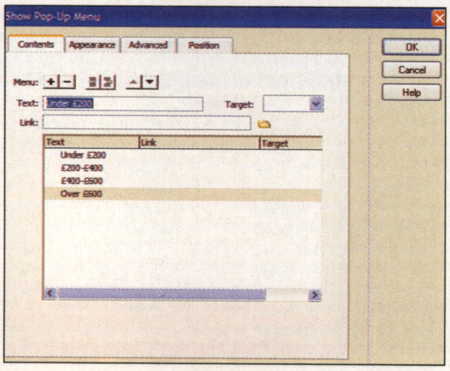
8 More buttons

Click the plus sign to add a new button, then follow the same procedure to create another rollover button. Once you've done this three or four times, you'll have your navigation bar. Notice that we haven't bothered with links, though.


Jump Menu Go
Open Browser Window
Play Sound
Popup Message
Preload Images
Set Nav Bar Image
Set Text
Show Pop-Up Menu
Show-Hide Layers
Swap Image
Swap Image Restore
Timeline
Validate Form
Show Events For
Get More Behaviors...
Databases
Bindings
Server Beh
Componen

9 A pop-up menu

This is because all the linking will be done from a pop-up menu. Click on the first nav button, then on the 'Behaviors' tab at the top right. In here, click on the plus sign, then choose 'Show Pop-up menu' from the list.



Show Pop-Up Menu

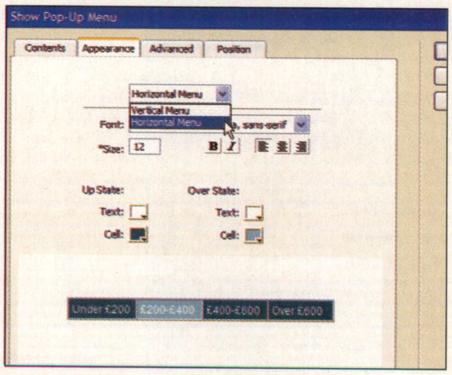
Text: Under £200

Text	Link	Target
Under £200		
£200-£400		
£400-£600		
Over £600		

Contents
Appearance
Advanced
Position
Menu:
Link:
Target:
OK
Cancel
Help

10 Pop-up buttons

Dreamweaver MX only lets you use its built-in textual modes to create pop-up menu buttons, which makes it much easier. Enter the names of each of the buttons you want to create for the first nav link, as shown above.



Show Pop-Up Menu

Horizontal Menu

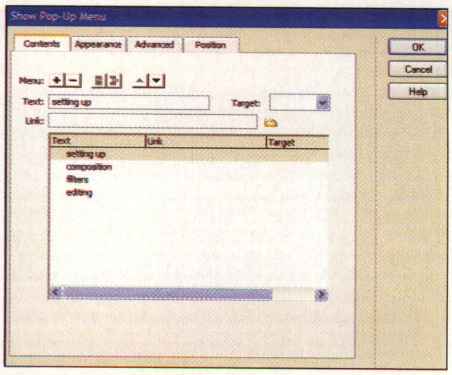
Font: sans-serif

Size: 12

Contents
Appearance
Advanced
Position
Vertical Menu
Horizontal Menu
Up State:
Over State:
Text:
Cell:
Under £200
£200-£400
£400-£600
Over £600

11 Customise the menu

You can now tweak your pop-up menu to look exactly as you wish. We've opted for a 'horizontal menu', so that it takes up less room in the top frame, and we've also changed the colours of the boxes, text and borders.



Show Pop-Up Menu

Text: setting up

Text	Link	Target
setting up		
composition		
filters		
editing		

Contents
Appearance
Advanced
Position
Menu:
Link:
Target:
OK
Cancel
Help

12 More menus please

Once you've got the first pop-up menu out of the way, it's easy to create more for each of your main nav buttons. Simply click on the button in question and enter the names of the links that will appear from it.

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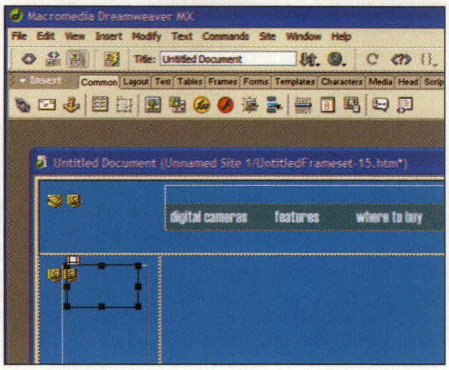
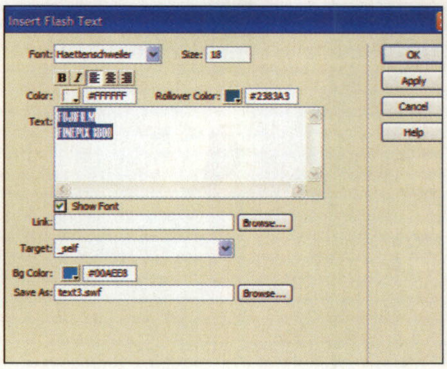

Macromedia Dreamweaver MX
File Edit View Insert Modify Text Commands Site Window Help
Title: Untitled Document
Insert Common Layout Text Tables Frames Forms Templates Characters Media Head Script
Untitled Document (Unnamed Site 1/UntitledFrameset-15.htm*)
digital cameras features where to buy

13 Sub-menu links

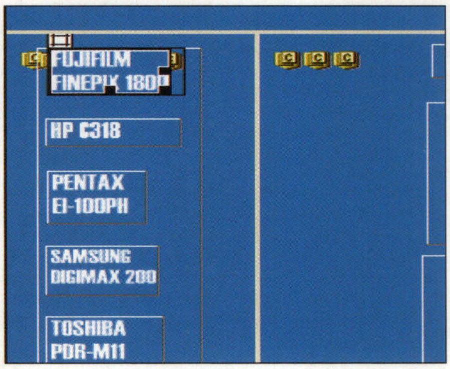
Now that the main navigation section is sorted, let's start creating subsection links, which will only appear in the left frame when links are selected in the main menu. Click on the left frame and insert two new layers, as shown above.


Insert Flash Text
OK
Apply
Cancel
Help
B I

Font: Haettenschweiler
Size: 18
Color: #FFFFFF
Rollover Color: #2383A3
Text: FUJIFILM FINEPIX 1800
☑ Show Font
Link:
Target: _self
Bg Color: #004EE8
Save As: text3.swf

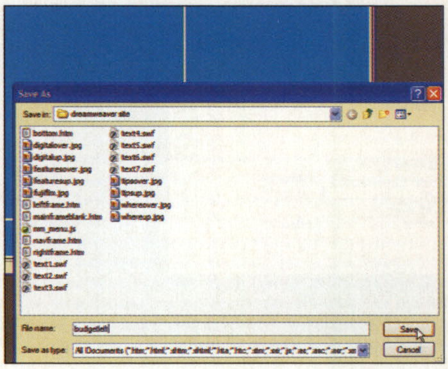
14 Flash text

In the smaller layer, go to 'Insert', 'Interactive images', 'Flash text'. In here, we're entering the name of a specific camera. Style the text up, making sure you include a rollover colour, and that you give it the same background colour as your site.


FUJIFILM FINEPIX 1800
HP C318
PENTAX EI-100PH
SAMSUNG DIGIMAX 200
TOSHIBA PDR-M11

15 More of the same

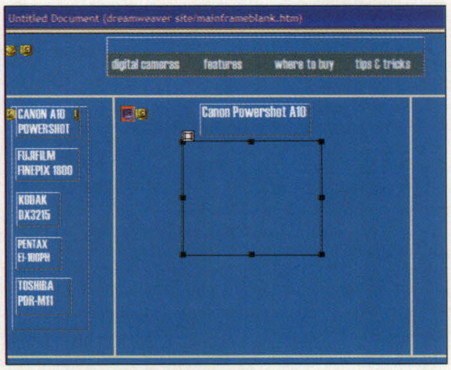
Repeat the above step to create a list of links down the side of the page. Again, we haven't included any link information – we'll get round to this later, when we've sorted the site, in particular the pages that will be linked to.


Save As
Save in: dreamweaver site
bottom.htm
digitalover.jpg
digitalup.jpg
featuresover.jpg
featuresup.jpg
fujifilm.jpg
leftframe.htm
mainframeblank.htm
mm_menu.js
navframe.htm
rightframe.htm
text1.swf
text2.swf
text3.swf
text4.swf
text5.swf
text6.swf
text7.swf
tipsover.jpg
tipsup.jpg
whereover.jpg
whereup.jpg
Save
Cancel

File name: budgetleft

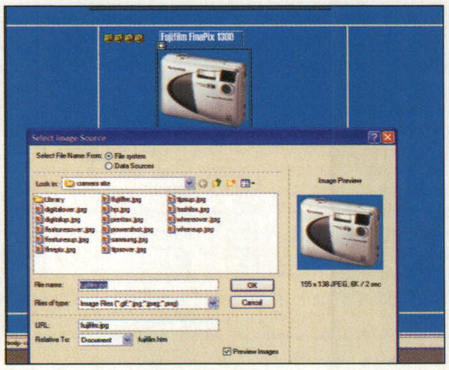
16 Save the frame

Go to 'File', then choose 'Save Frame As'. Enter a new name for this frame – we've gone for 'budgetleft'. We now have two different HTML files relating to the frame on the left-hand side, which will be loaded at different times.


Untitled Document (dreamweaver site/mainframeblank.htm)
digital cameras features where to buy tips & tricks
CANON A10 POWERSHOT
FUJIFILM FINEPIX 1800
KODAK DX3215
PENTAX EI-100PH
TOSHIBA PDR-M11
Canon Powershot A10

17 The main frame

The main frame will include a title, graphic and description for each camera featured, so draw a new layer then insert some Flash text with your heading in it. Make sure it's styled the same as your other Flash text. Insert another layer below this.


Fujifilm FinePix 1800
Select Image Source
Select File Name From: File system Data Sources
Look in: camera site
Image Preview
155 x 138 JPEG, 6K / 2 sec
OK
Cancel
Preview Images

URL: fujifilm.jpg
Relative To: Document

18 Insert an image

We want to include an image of the camera in question, so go to 'Insert' and choose 'Image'. You'll now be able to browse your hard drive for the relevant image. Once you've done this, click on 'Open' to insert the image.

Jargon buster

■ Layer

Layers are one of the most significant enhancements in WYSIWYG Web design in recent years, and allow you to ignore the inadequacies of HTML and create a site that truly looks the same in the package as it does when it's on the Web. Apart from giving you the opportunity to create multi-layered, complex sites, layers are perfect for placing elements at exact points on your page.

■ Behavior

Behaviors are a collection of effects you can add to a page element. In our site, we've created a pop-up menu, but you can also use the technology to add things like scrolling status bar text and pop-up messages. Dreamweaver will automatically add all of the JavaScript mouseover actions, to save you doing it – even though this is what gives the section its name.

■ Flash text

A Web page filled with basic boring text is hardly likely to win any design awards, so the Flash text option is a great way of incorporating more attractive headings and links. Although you can't animate the text, as you would with Flash itself, the main advantage is that you can use any font you wish, and it will be rendered perfectly on anyone's machine.

■ Rollover

A rollover allows you to create different states for a button so that it changes whenever the visitor moves his or her mouse over it. You can pick up graphics programs that do this to a ridiculous degree, but Dreamweaver MX is actually one of the most easy to use rollover creators on the market.

■ Pop-up menu

This feature, used extensively in well-designed Web sites throughout the world, allows you to include more information on your site that visitors can view whenever they click on the relevant link. Based on the Windows menu systems, pop-up menus are simply a collection of more options that appear whenever someone moves their mouse over the necessary button. All pop-up menus are created using JavaScript, although you won't have to touch a line of code when you're using Dreamweaver MX.

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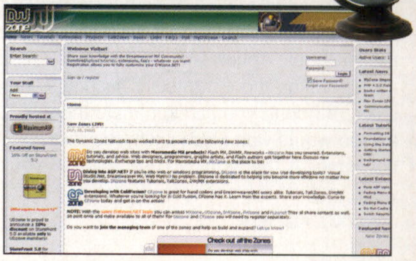
Power users' tip

ONCE YOU PREVIEW your site, it's common to notice the odd glitch. The most likely problem with the site created on these pages is that the frames will be incorrectly aligned, or won't be large enough to incorporate all the elements. The easy way around this is to go back into Dreamweaver MX and change the frameset around slightly, until you can be sure that all of the graphics and text will fit where they should. Another problem to look out for is different browser sizes. Different people run different resolutions on their PCs, so it's worth trying your site out in a variety of resized browser windows. If it looks good maximised, but rubbish in a smaller window, then you've probably aimed too high, and tried to include too many elements.

Web resources



■ DWZone

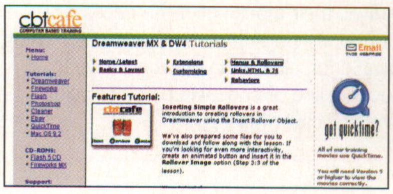
www.dwzone.net

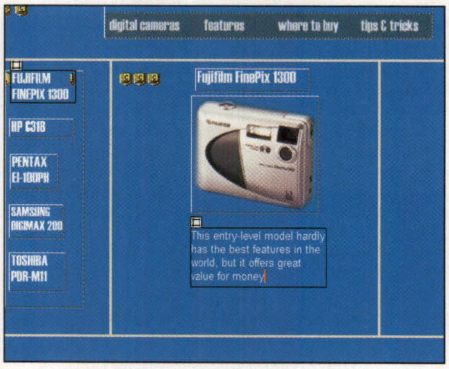
This is the place to come for top-notch tutorials and a host of tips and tricks that promise to make your site stand out from the crowd. Part of the increasingly popular 'Zones' group, which also has info on other MX products like ColdFusion, DWZone also goes into surprising depth on some of the more technically-advanced features of Dreamweaver MX.

■ CBT Café

www.cbtcafe.com/dreamweaver

This site plays host to a variety of tutorials, ranging from the most beginner-friendly, through to some high level advice on site interaction.

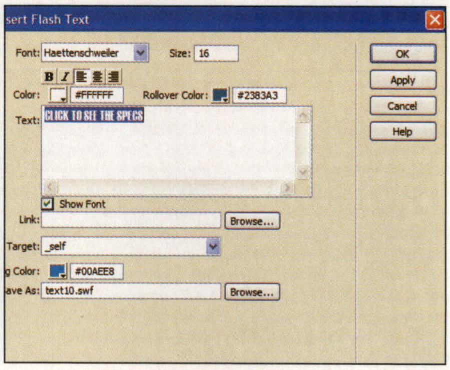

cbtcafe
Dreamweaver MX & DW4 Tutorials
Featured Tutorial:
got quicktime?


digital cameras
features
where to buy
tips & tricks
FUJIFILM FINEPIX 1300
HP C318
PENTAX EI-100PH
SAMSUNG DIGIMAX 200
TOSHIBA PDR-M11
Fujifilm FinePix 1300

This entry-level model hardly has the best features in the world, but it offers great value for money

19 Descriptive text

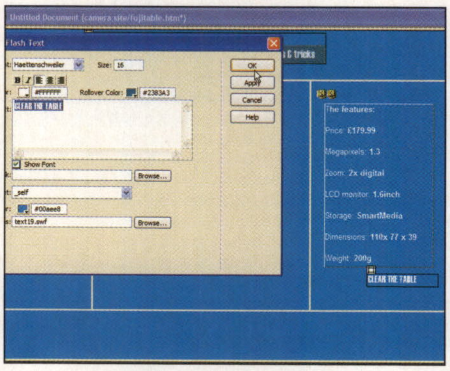
Below the image, create another layer box, then type your descriptive text. Style the text up to fit in with the look and feel of the site – we've changed the font colour to white, and made it size two instead of three.


sert Flash Text
OK
Apply
Cancel
Help
Browse...
Browse...

Font: Haettenschweiler Size: 16
Color: #FFFFFF Rollover Color: #2383A3
Text: CLICK TO SEE THE SPECS
☑ Show Font
Link:
Target: _self
g Color: #00AEE8
ave As: text10.swf

20 A linking button

We want to create a button that will open up a table frame for the particular camera. To do this, we only need to create another piece of Flash text with a relevant message. Style this up to suit, then save this frame with a different name.

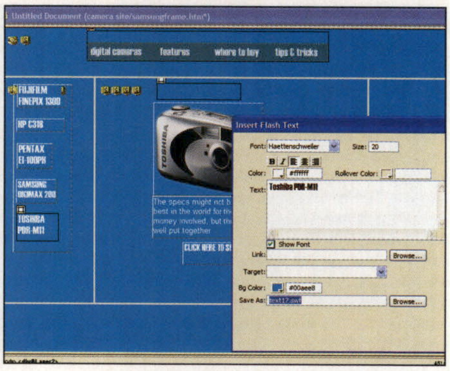

Untitled Document (camera site/fujitable.htm*)
Flash Text
OK
Apply
Cancel
Help
Browse...
Browse...
& tricks
CLEAR THE TABLE

Haettenschweiler Size: 16
#FFFFFF Rollover Color: #2383A3
CLEAR THE TABLE
☑ Show Font
_self
#00aee8
text19.swf

The features:
Price £179.99
Megapixels 1.3
Zoom 2x digital
LCD monitor 1.6inch
Storage SmartMedia
Dimensions 110x 77 x 39
Weight 200g

21 The table frame

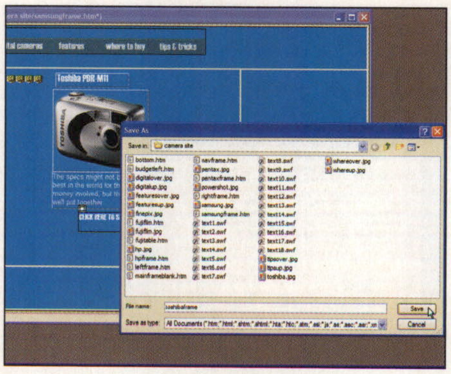
On the right-hand frame, draw a new layer box, then enter your camera information. Below this, create a Flash text button to close down this frame again – we'll show you how to link it all up and get it working in a moment.


Untitled Document (camera site/samsungframe.htm*)
digital cameras
features
where to buy
tips & tricks
FUJIFILM FINEPIX 1300
HP C318
PENTAX EI-100PH
SAMSUNG DIGIMAX 200
TOSHIBA PDR-M11
Insert Flash Text
CLICK HERE TO SE
Browse...
Browse...

Font: Haettenschweiler Size: 20
Color: #FFFFFF Rollover Color:
Text: Toshiba PDR-M11
☑ Show Font
Bg Color: #00aee8

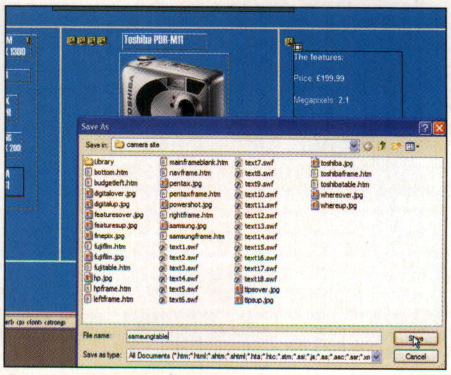
22 More cameras

To create more camera frames, simply use the existing one as a basis. Make sure that you delete each instance of Flash text and generate entirely new ones, otherwise the links and images will end up out of kilter.


era site/samsungframe.htm*)
ital cameras
features
where to buy
tips & tricks
Toshiba PDR M11
Save As
Save in: camera site
File name:
Save as type: All Documents
Save
Cancel

23 Save your main frames

As we've seen before, the easiest way to make sure all of your pages don't end up in a confusing mess is to 'Save Frame As' with each one. This way, you can have many different frames appearing in the same place on the same page.


Toshiba PDR-M11
The features:
Price £199.99
Megapixels 2.1
Save As
Save in: camera site
File name: samsungtable
Save as type: All Documents
Save
Cancel

24 More tables

Now that the main frames are sorted, let's get to work on creating more table frames. You don't need to create these tables in conjunction with the main frames. As long as you name each frame sensibly, it will be easy to link back to it later.

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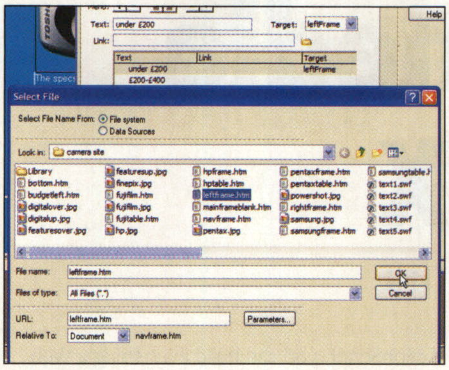
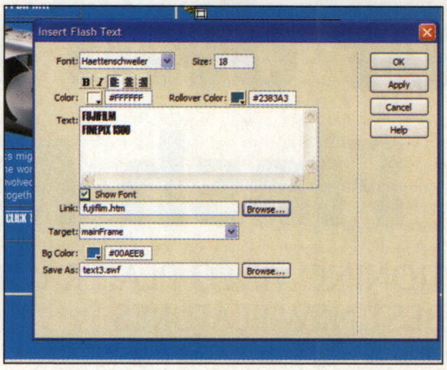

Text: under £200
Target: leftFrame
Select File Name From: ● File system ○ Data Sources
Look in: camera site
File name: leftframe.htm
Files of type: All Files (*.*)
URL: leftframe.htm
Relative To: Document navframe.htm
Help
Link:
Text
Link
Target
under £200
leftFrame
£200-£400
Select File
Library
bottom.htm
budgetleft.htm
digitalover.jpg
digitalup.jpg
featuresover.jpg
featuresup.jpg
finepix.jpg
fujifilm.htm
fujifilm.jpg
fujitable.htm
hp.jpg
hpframe.htm
hptable.htm
leftframe.htm
mainframeblank.htm
navframe.htm
pentax.jpg
pentaxframe.htm
pentaxtable.htm
powershot.jpg
rightframe.htm
samsung.jpg
samsungframe.htm
samsungtable.h
text1.swf
text2.swf
text3.swf
text4.swf
text5.swf
OK
Cancel
Parameters...

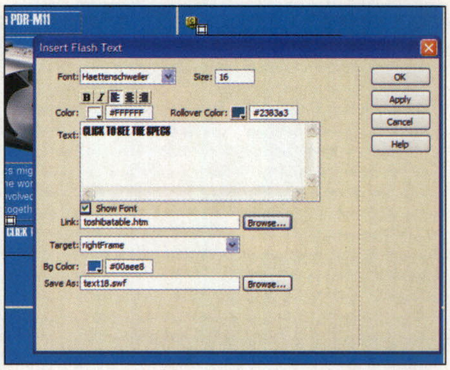
25 Link it up

To start linking your site up, go to the first nav bar button, then double-click on the pop-up menu. In here, browse to find the HTML file to link to ('leftframe.htm'), then change the Target to 'leftframe'. Repeat this for the rest of the pop-ups.


Font: Haettenschweiler
Size: 18
Color: #FFFFFF
Rollover Color: #2383A3
Text: FUJIFILM FINEPIX 1300
☑ Show Font
Link: fujifilm.htm
Target: mainFrame
Bg Color: #00AEE8
Save As: text3.swf
Insert Flash Text
OK
Apply
Cancel
Help
Browse...
Browse...

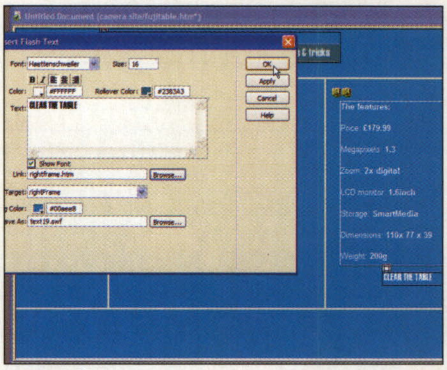
26 The left frame

Bring up the left frame nav section, then double-click on the first Flash text button. Now click 'Browse' to find the main frame HTML file to open. Make sure the Target is set to 'mainFrame', as we want the frame to open in the centre.


Font: Haettenschweiler
Size: 16
Color: #FFFFFF
Rollover Color: #2383a3
Text: CLICK TO SEE THE SPECS
☑ Show Font
Link: toshibatable.htm
Target: rightFrame
Bg Color: #00aee8
Save As: text18.swf
PDR-M11
Insert Flash Text
OK
Apply
Cancel
Help
Browse...
Browse...

27 Main frame linking

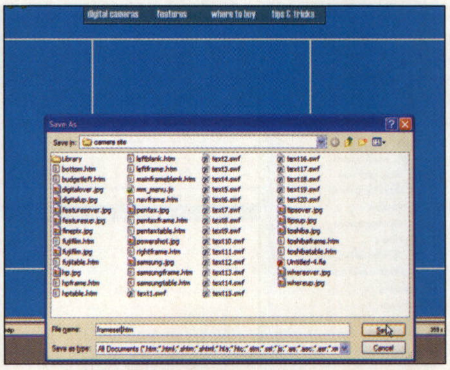
For each page in the main frame, double-click on the Flash text button, then link it up to the relevant table frame. Again, ensure that you've set the Target to 'rightFrame', as this is where we want the table to open up on the page.


Untitled Document (camera site/fujitable.htm*)
Font: Haettenschweiler
Size: 16
Color: #FFFFFF
Rollover Color: #2383A3
Text: CLEAR THE TABLE
☑ Show Font
Link: rightframe.htm
Target: rightFrame
Bg Color: #00aee8
Save As: text19.swf

The features:
Price: £179.99
Megapixels: 1.3
Zoom: 2x digital
LCD monitor: 1.6inch
Storage: SmartMedia
Dimensions: 110x 77 x 39
Weight: 200g
Insert Flash Text
OK
Apply
Cancel
Help
Browse...
Browse...
tips & tricks
CLEAR THE TABLE

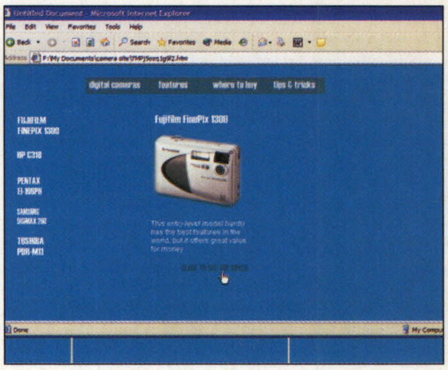
28 Clear the table

On the right frame, double-click the Flash text button. Here, the target should be set to 'rightFrame' (the one we're working on). Link it to your blank version of the right frame, so visitors will see the right-hand section of the Web page clearing.


Save in: camera site
File name: frameset.htm
Save as type: All Documents (*.htm;*.html;*.shtm;*.shtml;*.hta;*.htc;*.stm;*.ssi;*.js;*.as;*.asc;*.asr;*.xn
digital cameras
features
where to buy
tips & tricks
Save As
Library
bottom.htm
budgetleft.htm
digitalover.jpg
digitalup.jpg
featuresover.jpg
featuresup.jpg
finepix.jpg
fujifilm.htm
fujifilm.jpg
fujitable.htm
hp.jpg
hpframe.htm
hptable.htm
leftblank.htm
leftframe.htm
mainframeblank.htm
mm_menu.js
navframe.htm
pentax.jpg
pentaxframe.htm
pentaxtable.htm
powershot.jpg
rightframe.htm
samsung.jpg
samsungframe.htm
samsungtable.htm
text1.swf
text2.swf
text3.swf
text4.swf
text5.swf
text6.swf
text7.swf
text8.swf
text9.swf
text10.swf
text11.swf
text12.swf
text13.swf
text14.swf
text15.swf
text16.swf
text17.swf
text18.swf
text19.swf
text20.swf
tipsover.jpg
tipsup.jpg
toshiba.jpg
toshibaframe.htm
toshibatable.htm
Untitled-4.fla
whereover.jpg
whereup.jpg
Save
Cancel

29 Save the frameset

To set the default state of the frames, open up the blank version of each frame (except the top one). Having done this, go to 'File', then 'Save As'. Give your frameset a name – this is what will be loaded when you've uploaded it.


Untitled Document - Microsoft Internet Explorer
Address: F:\My Documents\camera site\TMPj5ozq1g9f2.htm
File
Edit
View
Favorites
Tools
Help
Back
Search
Favorites
Media
digital cameras
features
where to buy
tips & tricks
FUJIFILM FINEPIX 1300
HP C318
PENTAX EI-100PH
SAMSUNG SIGMAX 200
TOSHIBA PDR-M11
Fujifilm FinePix 1300
This entry-level model hardly has the best features in the world, but it offers great value for money
CLICK TO SEE THE SPECS
Done
My Computer

30 Testing, testing

It's now time to make sure that all your links and frames work. Press 'F12' on the keyboard to preview your site in your browser. You should have a one page, multi-framed site that contains all the information you wanted.

Jargon buster

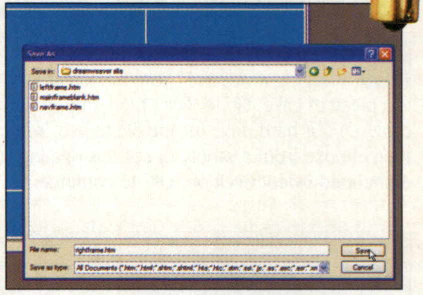
Target

A target basically tells Dreamweaver how to open the current link. In most instances, the link page will be opened in the same page as the button that leads to it. In most cases, people will use a '_blank' target to open the link in a new Web page, so that the original page is left intact. Because we're using frames so extensively on our site, we're having to make use of frame targets, which effectively state that the link should be opened in a particular frame on the page.

Navigation bar

This is a standard Web feature, where all of the main pages of a site can be accessed quickly and easily using a simple set of buttons along either the side or top of a Web page. As is often the case, we've used frames on our site to make sure that the navigation bar remains in view no matter where you visit on the site.

Power users' tip


Save in: dreamweaver site
File name: rightframe.htm
Save as type: All Documents (*.htm;*.html;*.shtm;*.shtml;*.hta;*.htc;*.stm;*.ssi;*.js;*.as;*.asc;*.asr;*.xn
Save As
leftframe.htm
mainframeblank.htm
navframe.htm
Save
Cancel

IT'S INCREDIBLY IMPORTANT that you save each frame as you create it. This is mainly because you're creating new frames on top of each other. Because of the specific frameset that the Web site on these pages are designed to, it's necessary to build the content for each new 'main frame' over another 'main frame'. This way, you can guarantee your content will always match your frames. The problem with this is that you can all too easily save the new frame over the existing one, rendering much of your site useless. Therefore, every time you create a frame, make sure you go to 'File', then 'Save Frame As', so that you don't end up with one frame file where you thought there would be five.

In brief:

Task: Embed video into your site with Flash MX
Software I need: Flash MX
Difficulty: Intermediate
Time I need: 40 minutes

Practical Internet IT'S ON THE CD

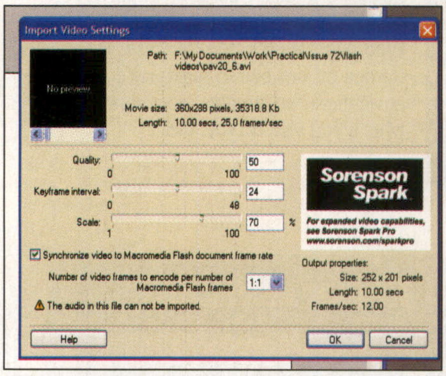
Make your own media player in Flash MX

GIVE YOUR SITE A FULLY FUNCTIONING VIDEO PLAYER WITH THE HELP OF ONE OF FLASH MX'S BEST NEW FEATURES

NEW FEATURES ABOUND in Flash MX, but one of the most impressive is the option to embed video clips within an animation. This single feature gives you more power than most packages can hope to muster in their whole interface, and turns bland sites into multimedia winners.

On one very basic level, this feature allows you to embed clips in such a way that the video will move in time with the rest of your animation. This is great for creating stunning multimedia animations, and should help you generate fantastic effects with minimum effort.

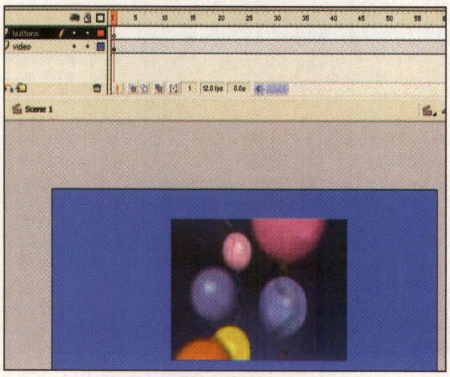
Take things a little bit further, and you'll discover that this principle is also a way to create online media players. With just a few buttons and the occasional piece of ActionScript, you can build everything a Web visitor would need to control the playback of an embedded video. What's more, you can now even include 'markers', frame points designed to split the main movie into smaller sections. The main benefit of this is that people will be able to navigate through the video using the 'back' button on Internet Explorer.


Import Video Settings
No preview
Sorenson Spark
For expanded video capabilities, see Sorenson Spark Pro www.sorenson.com/sparkpro
Help
OK
Cancel

Path: F:\My Documents\Work\Practical\Issue 72\flash videos\pav20_6.avi
Movie size: 360x288 pixels, 35318.8 Kb
Length: 10.00 secs, 25.0 frames/sec
Quality: 50 (0–100)
Keyframe interval: 24 (0–48)
Scale: 70 % (1–100)
☑ Synchronize video to Macromedia Flash document frame rate
Number of video frames to encode per number of Macromedia Flash frames: 1:1
⚠ The audio in this file can not be imported.
Output properties:
Size: 252 x 201 pixels
Length: 10.00 secs
Frames/sec: 12.00

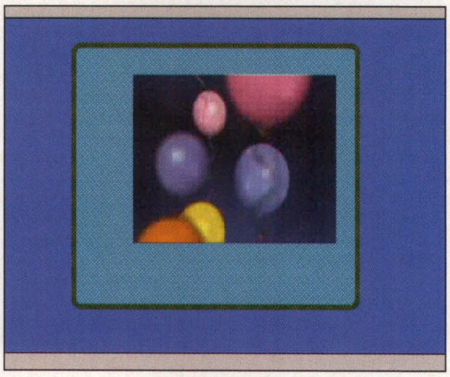
1 Import a video

Bringing a video clip into a Flash animation is a piece of cake. Go to 'File', then 'Import', and browse your hard drive for the file to use. You can then choose from a variety of options relating to embedded video. Click on 'OK' to continue.


buttons
video
Scene 1

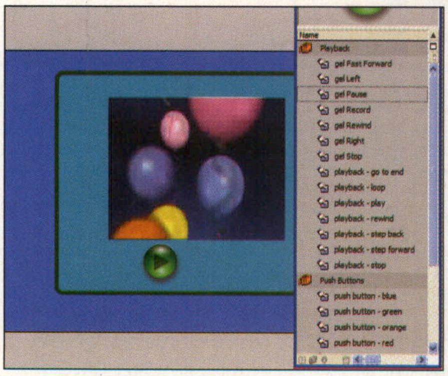
2 Some admin

We've moved the video clip up on the stage, and then changed the background colour. Now it's time to add more elements – so, first of all, let's create a new layer. Rename this 'background', and the first one to 'video'.



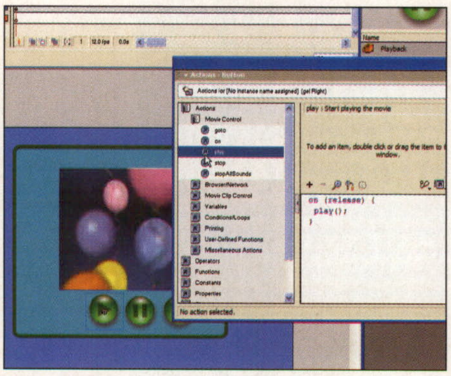
3 Turn on your TV

With the video clip in place, check you're working in the 'background' layer, then draw a rounded rectangle roughly around the clip. Change the colours to suit, and make sure there's enough room for buttons to the side and below the clip.


Name
Playback
gel Fast Forward
gel Left
gel Pause
gel Record
gel Rewind
gel Right
gel Stop
playback - go to end
playback - loop
playback - play
playback - rewind
playback - step back
playback - step forward
playback - stop
Push Buttons
push button - blue
push button - green
push button - orange
push button - red

4 Control buttons

Create another layer, and call it 'buttons'. The easiest way of adding buttons is using the built-in symbols. Go to 'Window', 'Common Libraries', then 'Buttons'. Drag the desired 'play' button onto the stage, then resize it to fit.


Name
Playback
Actions - Button
Actions for [No instance name assigned] (gel Right)
Actions
Movie Control
goto
on
play
stop
stopAllSounds
Browser/Network
Movie Clip Control
Variables
Conditions/Loops
Printing
User-Defined Functions
Miscellaneous Actions
Operators
Functions
Constants
Properties

play : Start playing the movie

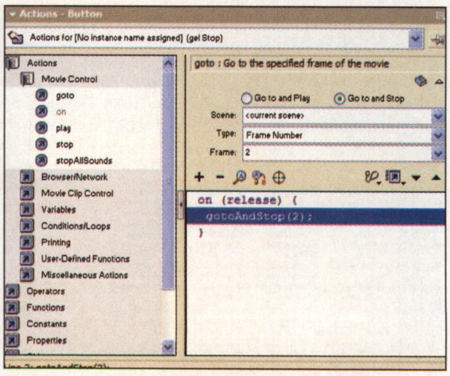
To add an item, double click or drag the item to the window.

```
on (release) {
  play();
}
```

No action selected.

5 Actions

Press 'F9' to bring up the Actions window. Making sure that you've selected the play button, double click on 'Play' to create the above ActionScript. Having done this, create similar buttons for pausing and stopping the video clip.


Actions - Button
Actions for [No instance name assigned] (gel Stop)
Actions
Movie Control
goto
on
play
stop
stopAllSounds
Browser/Network
Movie Clip Control
Variables
Conditions/Loops
Printing
User-Defined Functions
Miscellaneous Actions
Operators
Functions
Constants
Properties

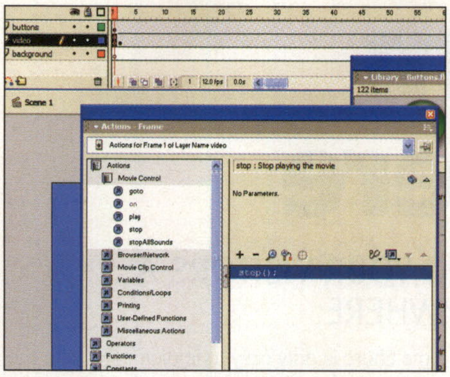
goto : Go to the specified frame of the movie

○ Go to and Play ● Go to and Stop
Scene: <current scene>
Type: Frame Number
Frame: 2

```
on (release) {
  gotoAndStop(2);
}
```

6 More actions

Click the pause button, then double-click on 'Stop' to create a pause effect. For a proper stop effect, double-click 'GoTo', then choose 'GoTo and Stop'. In the frame number box, enter '1', to take the user back to the first frame of action.



Actions for Frame 1 of Layer Name video

stop : Stop playing the movie

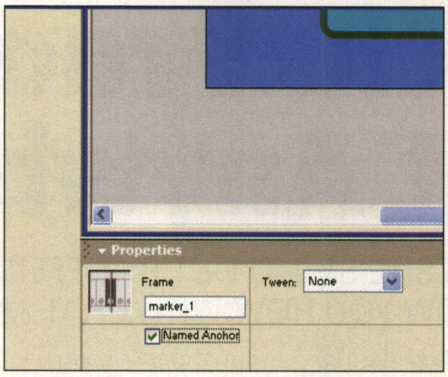
No Parameters.

```
stop();
```

buttons
video
background
Scene 1
Library - Buttons.fl
122 items
Actions - Frame
Actions
Movie Control
goto
on
play
stop
stopAllSounds
Browser/Network
Movie Clip Control
Variables
Conditions/Loops
Printing
User-Defined Functions
Miscellaneous Actions
Operators
Functions
12.0 fps
0.0s

7 Moving frames

In the 'video' layer, grab hold of the active frames and move them forward, so it starts on frame 2. Insert a new keyframe in frame 1, then place a 'Stop' action. This stops the video clip loading as soon as the Flash file opens.



Frame: marker_1

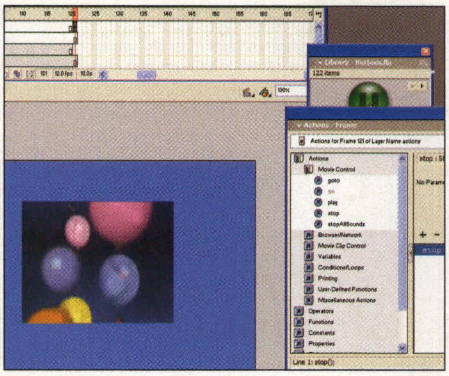
Tween: None

☑ Named Anchor

Properties

8 On your markers

Insert a new layer above the existing ones, and call it 'markers'. Insert a keyframe a quarter of the way into the video clip (our video clip is 120 frames, so we've gone for 30). Give this a frame name of 'marker_1', then tick the 'Named Anchor'.



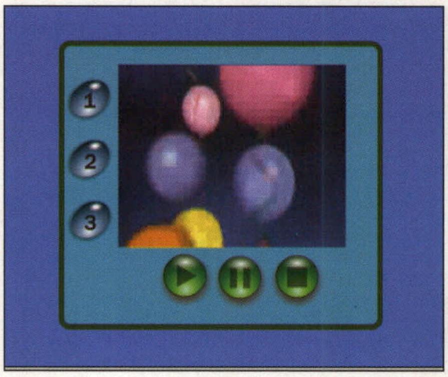
Actions for Frame 121 of Layer Name actions

Line 1: stop();

Library - Buttons.fl
122 items
Actions - Frame
Actions
Movie Control
goto
on
play
stop
stopAllSounds
Browser/Network
Movie Clip Control
Variables
Conditions/Loops
Printing
User-Defined Functions
Miscellaneous Actions
Operators
Functions
Constants
Properties

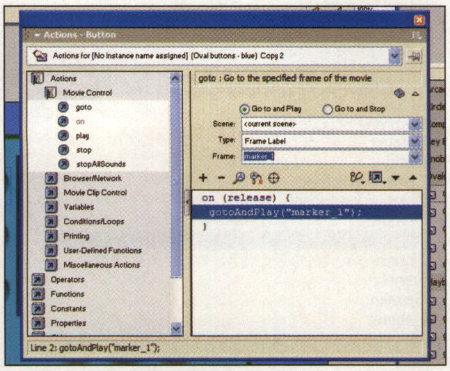
9 More markers

Add two more markers at quarterly points, linking them as before. Create another layer, this time called 'actions'. In this layer, create a keyframe in frame 2, then apply a 'stop' action, then do the same for the very last layer of your video clip.



10 Marker buttons

Now create some buttons that allow visitors to navigate to sections of the video clip more easily. Drag an oval button from the Library, then rotate and resize it to fit. Enter a number on the button, and repeat this until you have three buttons.



Actions for [No instance name assigned] (Oval buttons - blue) Copy 2

goto : Go to the specified frame of the movie

● Go to and Play ○ Go to and Stop

Scene: <current scene>

Type: Frame Label

Frame: marker_1

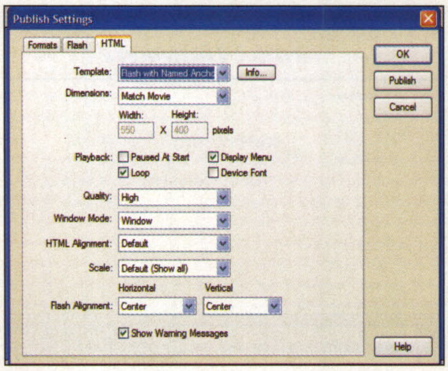
```
on (release) {
  gotoAndPlay("marker_1");
}
```

Line 2: gotoAndPlay("marker_1");

Actions - Button
Actions
Movie Control
goto
on
play
stop
stopAllSounds
Browser/Network
Movie Clip Control
Variables
Conditions/Loops
Printing
User-Defined Functions
Miscellaneous Actions
Operators
Functions
Constants
Properties

11 Link them up

Click the first button, then go into the Actions palette. Double-click on the 'GoTo' action, then choose 'Frame Label' in the 'Type' drop down menu. Below this, pick the first marker you set. Repeat this for the other two buttons.



Publish Settings

Template: Flash with Named Anch

Dimensions: Match Movie

Width: 550 X Height: 400 pixels

Playback: ☐ Paused At Start ☑ Display Menu ☑ Loop ☐ Device Font

Quality: High

Window Mode: Window

HTML Alignment: Default

Scale: Default (Show all)

Flash Alignment: Horizontal Center Vertical Center

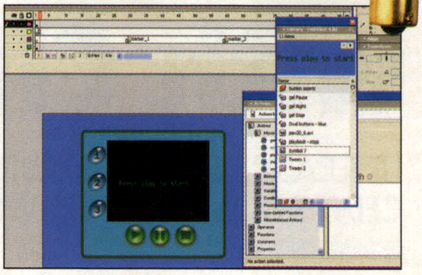
☑ Show Warning Messages

Formats
Flash
HTML
Info...
OK
Publish
Cancel
Help

12 Export it

To save, go to 'File', then 'Publish Settings'. Click the 'HTML' tab, then choose 'Flash with Named Anchors' from the 'Template' menu. Once you click on 'Publish', you'll be ready to use your media player on a Web page of your choice.

Power users' tip



FOR ADDED EFFECT, you might want to add a symbol to be displayed before the video starts. This prevents the blank space we're stuck with at the moment on our player, and also gives a much more professional look to the whole thing. There are a number of ways to achieve this, but they all follow the same basic principle. First of all, create a new movie symbol, then create an animation of any length you choose. If you use text, you can scroll it across the screen, for example. Place this movie clip in frame one of the animation, so that it never interferes with the video itself, which doesn't kick in until frame two.

Jargon buster

Embedded video

This feature, new to Flash MX, allows you to incorporate video clips into your Flash animations much more easily than ever before. As well as simply running the movie, you can now control its playback from within an interface that you create, essentially giving you the opportunity to create your own media player.

Marker

As the name suggests, this refers to a point in an animation or movie that is flagged up and can be returned to easily. In the case of embedded video clips in Flash, this means that you can let visitors access different sections of your clip far more easily.

Actions

You won't get very far in Flash without these. Actions relate to any piece of ActionScript that you include in an animation, and are small parts of code designed to enhance your Flash movie clip.

In brief:
Task: Install a chat room with Chat Anywhere
Software I need: Chat Anywhere
Difficulty: Beginner
Time I need: 30 minutes

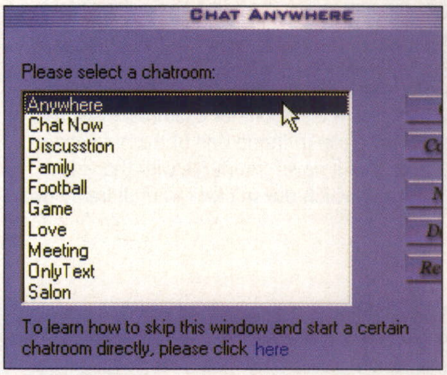
Practical Internet IT'S ON THE CD

Install a chat room with Chat Anywhere

IT'S EASY TO MAKE YOUR WEB SITE STAND OUT BY OFFERING YOUR VISITORS A CHAT ROOM FACILITY. WE SHOW YOU HOW WITH CHAT ANYWHERE

AS WEB DESIGN becomes more and more advanced, it's often easy to forget the things that draw visitors to your pages. Alongside a clean design, a few well-chosen additional elements always lend an extra touch of class to a site. Making your site experience a fully interactive one is an even better option, and by adding a chat room it is possible to transform lacklustre pages into dynamic meeting areas for your site visitors.

However, the thought of adding something like a chat room was once viewed as a nightmare scenario – akin to hand coding your entire site structure, or adding a ream of complex code to spice things up. Thanks to the programming skill of others, though, this one-time chore is now easy to implement – with the minimum of technical skill or coding expertise. Chat Anywhere is an example of an easy to use and efficient chat room. You won't need any extra plug-ins, scripts or other such tomfoolery – simply take a trip through our tutorial and you too will be ready, and able, to add this impressive effect to your very own site.

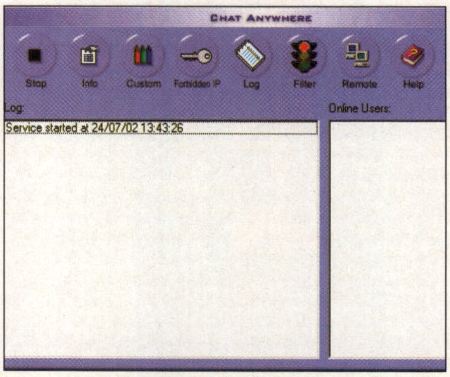

CHAT ANYWHERE
Anywhere
Chat Now
Discussion
Family
Football
Game
Love
Meeting
OnlyText
Salon

Please select a chatroom:

To learn how to skip this window and start a certain chatroom directly, please click here

1 Launch the program

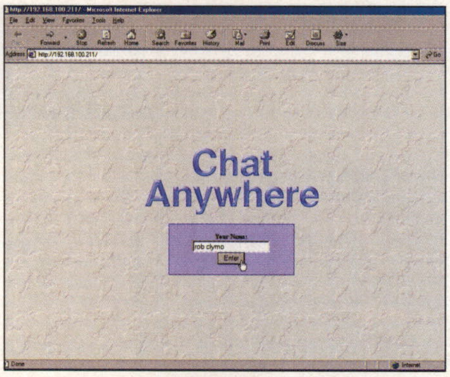
Getting started couldn't be simpler. Install the program then launch Chat Anywhere. You will instantly see this window, where you can select a chat option from the pre-configured list. You can also create, add or delete options as necessary.


CHAT ANYWHERE
Stop
Info
Custom
Forbidden IP
Log
Filter
Remote
Help
Log:
Online Users:

Service started at 24/07/02 13:43:26

2 The main window

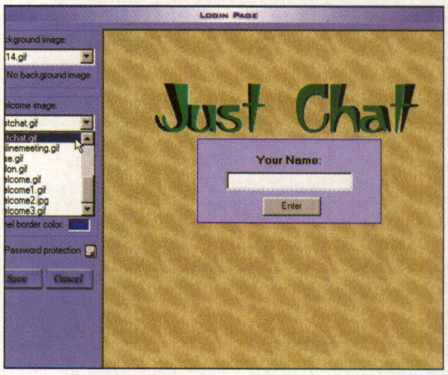
The main Chat Anywhere interface window will now open up. The tools for getting your chat room up and running are along the top of the program, including a Help option should you need any kind of assistance along the way.


Chat Anywhere
Enter

Your Name: rob clymo

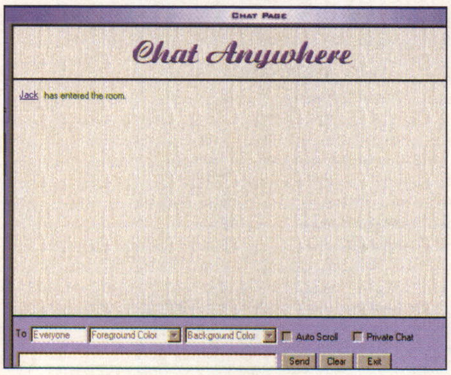
3 Your flexible friend

The beauty of Chat Anywhere is that it can be used independently and doesn't need a dedicated computer server – it can be used via a Local Area Network or the Internet. Once you've logged in, you can customise it to your own liking.


LOGIN PAGE
Just Chat
Your Name:
Enter
No background image
Password protection
Save
Cancel

4 Custom colours

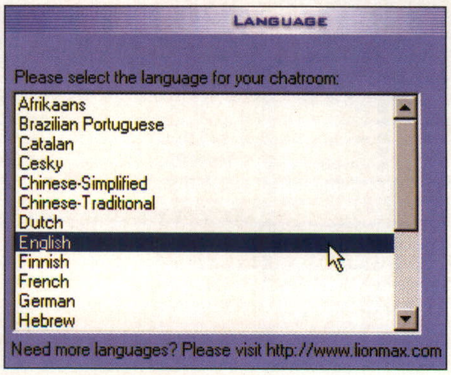
The first stop for personalising the software is the Log In window. Click the 'Custom' button to see a selection of options for creating a custom design, or at least one that will fit in with the style of your existing Web site.


CHAT PAGE
Chat Anywhere
To
Everyone
Foreground Color
Background Color
Auto Scroll
Private Chat
Send
Clear
Exit

Jack has entered the room.

5 The next step

Our next section is the main chat room area, which can also be customised in any way you want with a selection of coloured backgrounds and type styles. Once you are happy with the way things look, click on the 'Save' button.

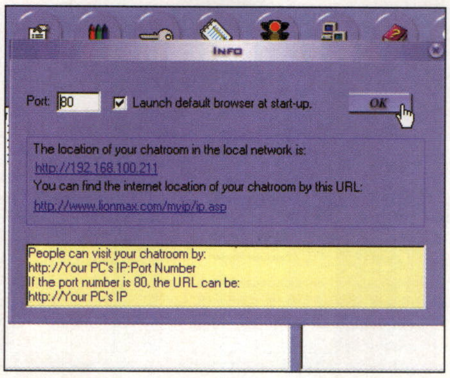

LANGUAGE
Afrikaans
Brazilian Portuguese
Catalan
Cesky
Chinese-Simplified
Chinese-Traditional
Dutch
English
Finnish
French
German
Hebrew

Please select the language for your chatroom:

Need more languages? Please visit http://www.lionmax.com

6 Pick a language

You can tailor Chat Anywhere for any kind of language. There is a comprehensive list available in the default window. However, if you don't see the one you need, click the **www.lionmax.com** link for more choices.



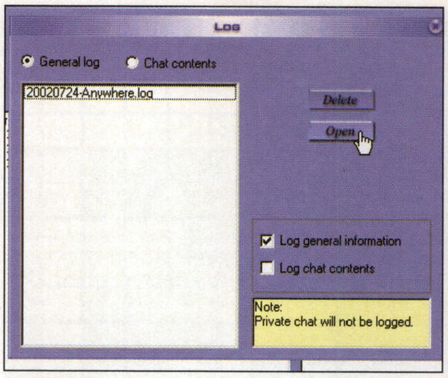
Port: 80 ☑ Launch default browser at start-up.

The location of your chatroom in the local network is:
http://192.168.100.211
You can find the internet location of your chatroom by this URL:
http://www.lionmax.com/myip/ip.asp

People can visit your chatroom by:
http://Your PC's IP:Port Number
If the port number is 80, the URL can be:
http://Your PC's IP

7 Find yourself

If you need to find the location of your chat room, click on the 'Info' button in the main interface window. This will open a dialog box which shows you the IP address and the port used. You shouldn't need to change this setting.



● General log ○ Chat contents

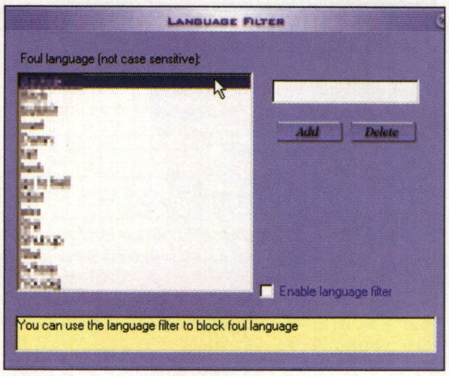
20020724-Anywhere.log

☑ Log general information
☐ Log chat contents

Note:
Private chat will not be logged.

8 Log jam

A useful aspect of the software is that you can compile and view logs, which is handy for keeping track of all the activity within your chat room. You can view, and also delete, any of these logs using the button on the main menu.



Foul language (not case sensitive):

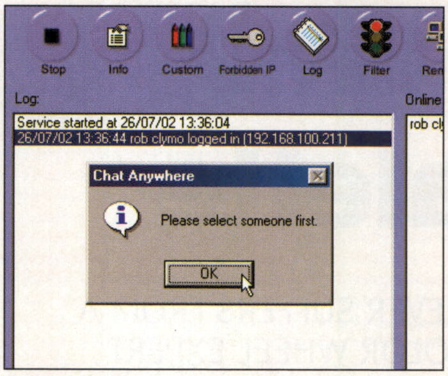
[redacted]

☐ Enable language filter

You can use the language filter to block foul language

9 Mind your language

Chat Anywhere also has a useful language filter. This comprises a list of 'blue' language (edited out in our screenshot) that can be blocked from use within your chat room. It is also possible to edit or add your own selections.



Log:

```
Service started at 26/07/02 13:36:04
26/07/02 13:36:44 rob clymo logged in (192.168.100.211)
```

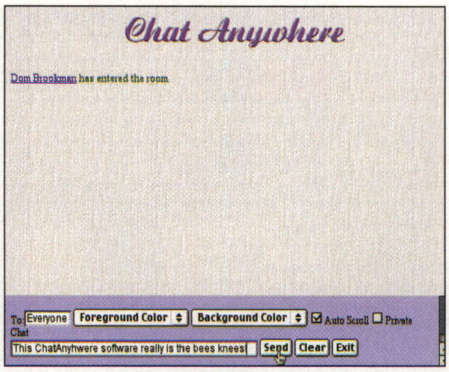
rob cl

Chat Anywhere

Please select someone first.

10 Unwanted visitors

The right-hand side of the interface houses the 'Kick Out' button, which is useful if you encounter someone making a nuisance of themselves. Select the person in question then click the 'Kick Out' button to get rid of them.

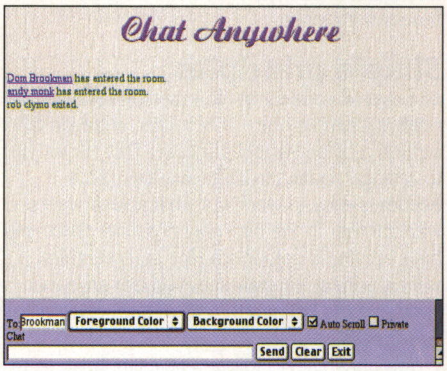


Dom Brookman has entered the room.

To: Everyone ☑ Auto Scroll ☐ Private
Chat
This ChatAnyhwere software really is the bees knees

11 Chat among yourselves

Once the Chat Anywhere software has been configured, you are free to get as many people involved as possible. Your visitors can log in and type their chat in at the bottom of the page. All they need to do then is press the 'Send' button.



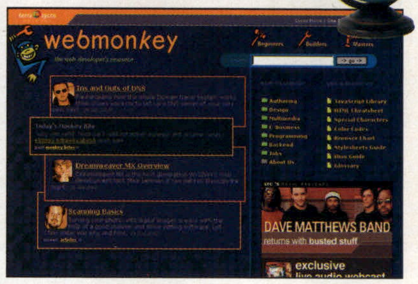
Dom Brookmen has entered the room.
andy monk has entered the room.
rob clymo exited.

To: Brookman ☑ Auto Scroll ☐ Private
Chat

12 All join in

The main chat window will show who has signed in and who has signed out. It is possible to leave and rejoin as you wish, and the chat window and the log will show who entered and when they left again.

Web resources



WebMonkey

http://hotwired.lycos.com/webmonkey

This is an ideal place to begin researching all manner of related topics. Not only does the site come armed with lots of tutorials, it also proves to be an invaluable source for technical advice and offers lots of pointers for the budding Web designer. There are also plenty of topics available for the more advanced user, too.

Download.com

http://download.com.com/3150-2150-0.html?tag=stbc.gp

Another option is to visit somewhere like download.com where you will find a whole host of other chat-related utilities and software. These range from beginner-based options right through to the higher-end software downloads needed to create complex interactive chat facilities. There are plenty of program descriptions, so you always know what to expect.

Jargon buster

Kick Out

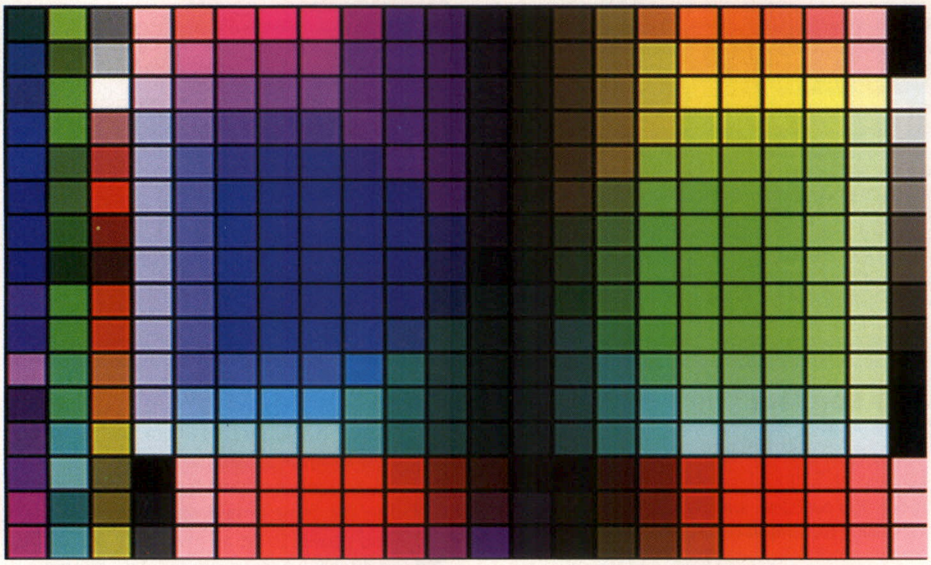
The Kick Out facility within Chat Anywhere means that you have a quick and easy way of getting rid of any troublesome chat fiends. The program has the capability to monitor anyone making a nuisance of themselves, and you can subsequently despatch the offending chatter simply by clicking on this rather useful button built into the program's interface.

Web-based chat

The whole principle around Chat Anywhere is that it can be accessed via the Internet, by using an everyday Web browser like Internet Explorer or Netscape. All the user needs to do is log in to the specific page and they will be free to chat with other visitors. This means that you can avoid having to go through lots of complicated set up procedures.

In brief:
Task: Create a Web colour palette
Software I need: Color Wheel Expert
Difficulty: Beginner
Time I need: 15 minutes

Practical Internet IT'S ON THE CD



Create a Web colour palette

MAKE SURE YOUR WEB SITE NEVER SUFFERS FROM A CLASH OF COLOURS USING COLOR WHEEL EXPERT

WE ALL KNOW how easy it is to create a Web site these days, mainly thanks to the collection of drag and drop WYSIWYG Web-authoring packages that have stormed the market. These programs have allowed the greenest of green computer users to put together their own Web pages with amazing speed and ease. However, even the most feature-packed WYSIWYG package can't disguise the fact that some users possess the design equivalent of two left feet. In that respect, having a knockout idea for your site still doesn't guarantee that it's going to look the business after you have finished putting it all together.

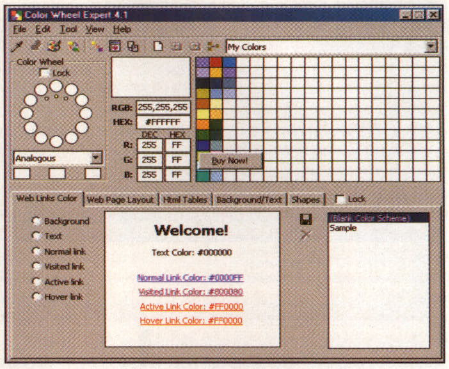
One crucial element on your site is the use of colour, but making sure that your site's content doesn't drown under a wave of clashing hues is easier said than done. The advice used to be that simple preparation and some forward planning on how you intend to use colour would help avoid having to correct mistakes further along the design line.

But there is now an even easier way. Thanks to an exceptionally neat little program called Color Wheel Expert, the days of creating a Web design disaster are numbered. This is a simple program that works as a trial until you pay the $19.95 cost to own a full version, and is an extremely useful little tool for creating harmonious sites. Once you've installed the program on your PC, you'll probably wonder how you ever got by without it. Even the most artistically challenged of Web designers should find this tool an instant boon and a great timesaving device.

Simple principles

The overall concept behind the software is a relatively simple one – it revolves, quite literally, around a colour wheel principle. This allows you to arrange colours in different ways, so it becomes easy to work out what colour works with another in the best way possible. Once you have created a colour scheme that you think will be perfect for your site, you can save this and keep the colours to use on later versions of your pages.

You only have to follow a few simple steps to create your colour palettes. What's more, the software also allows you to convert non-Web colour formats like CMYK and other print formats, so that if you have company stationery and the like, this can be represented accurately on your site.


Color Wheel Expert 4.1
File Edit Tool View Help
My Colors
Color Wheel
Lock
Buy Now!
Web Links Color | Web Page Layout | Html Tables | Background/Text | Shapes | Lock
Background
Text
Normal link
Visited link
Active link
Hover link

Analogous

RGB: 255,255,255
HEX: #FFFFFF

	DEC	HEX
R:	255	FF
G:	255	FF
B:	255	FF

Welcome!

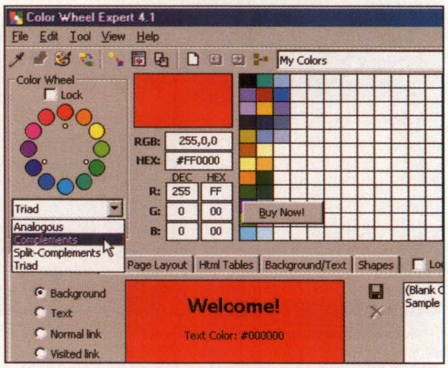
Text Color: #000000

Normal Link Color: #0000FF
Visited Link Color: #800080
Active Link Color: #FF0000
Hover Link Color: #FF0000

(Blank Color Scheme)
Sample

1 Get started

Begin by installing the program and then run it. Once the program opens you will be presented with an interface showing all of your basic options including the colour wheel, palette area and also how your text will look.


Color Wheel Expert 4.1
File Edit Tool View Help
My Colors
Color Wheel
Lock
Buy Now!
Analogous
Complements
Split-Complements
Triad
Page Layout | Html Tables | Background/Text | Shapes | Lo
Background
Text
Normal link
Visited link

Triad

RGB: 255,0,0
HEX: #FF0000

	DEC	HEX
R:	255	FF
G:	0	00
B:	0	00

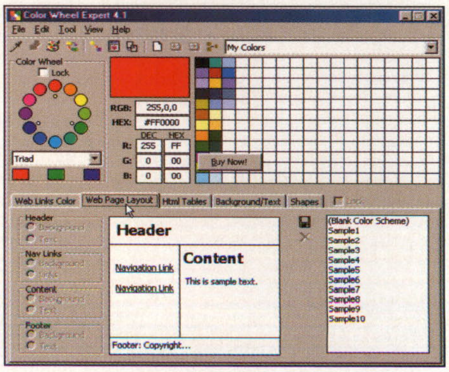
Welcome!

Text Color: #000000

(Blank C
Sample

4 Complimentary colours

In order to find colours that work well with your initial choice, go to the drop-down menu below the colour wheel and select an option. This will provide you with colours that work well with your original selection.


Color Wheel Expert 4.1
File Edit Tool View Help
My Colors
Color Wheel
Lock
Buy Now!
Web Links Color | Web Page Layout | Html Tables | Background/Text | Shapes | Lock
Header
Background
Text
Nav Links
Background
Links
Content
Background
Text
Footer
Background
Text

Triad

RGB: 255,0,0
HEX: #FF0000

	DEC	HEX
R:	255	FF
G:	0	00
B:	0	00

Header

Navigation Link
Navigation Link

Content

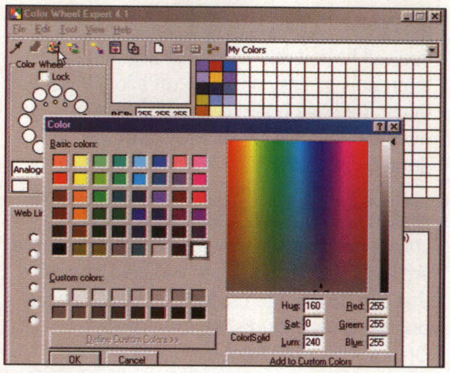
This is sample text.

Footer: Copyright...

(Blank Color Scheme)
Sample1
Sample2
Sample3
Sample4
Sample5
Sample6
Sample7
Sample8
Sample9
Sample10

7 Create a layout

Although the demo version doesn't allow you to create a complete Web page design scheme, the full version does. Go to the tab in the bottom-half of the window to do this and create a contrasting colour style in seconds.

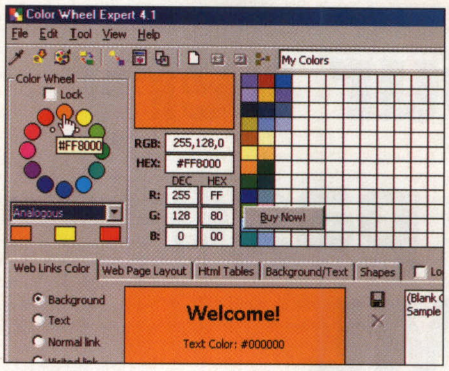

Color Wheel Expert 4.1
File Edit Tool View Help
My Colors
Color
Basic colors:
Custom colors:
Define Custom Colors >>
OK
Cancel
Add to Custom Colors

Hue: 160 Sat: 0 Lum: 240

Red: 255 Green: 255 Blue: 255

2 Pick a colour

If you have no idea of the colour scheme you want, open the Color dialog box. Select a colour option and then click 'OK'. Alternatively, make up a random colour that you would like to use on your site.


Color Wheel Expert 4.1
File Edit Tool View Help
My Colors
Color Wheel
Lock
Analogous
Buy Now!
Web Links Color
Web Page Layout
Html Tables
Background/Text
Shapes

#FF8000

RGB: 255,128,0

HEX: #FF8000

	DEC	HEX
R:	255	FF
G:	128	80
B:	0	00

○ Background

○ Text

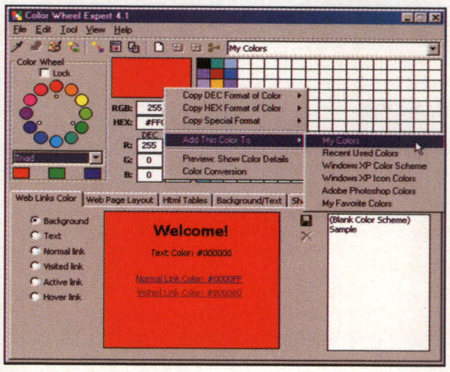
○ Normal link

Welcome!

Text Color: #000000

3 Set the style

Once you're back in the main window, you'll see that the colour wheel displays 12 variants of your original colour choice. By clicking on any of the dots in the colour circle, you'll see the contrasting shades of your colour scheme.


Color Wheel Expert 4.1
File Edit Tool View Help
My Colors
Copy DEC Format of Color
Copy HEX Format of Color
Copy Special Format
Add This Color To
Preview: Show Color Details
Color Conversion
My Colors
Recent Used Colors
Windows XP Color Scheme
Windows XP Icon Colors
Adobe Photoshop Colors
My Favorite Colors
Triad
Web Links Color
Web Page Layout
Html Tables
Background/Text

○ Background ○ Text ○ Normal link ○ Visited link ○ Active link ○ Hover link

Welcome!

Text Color: #000000

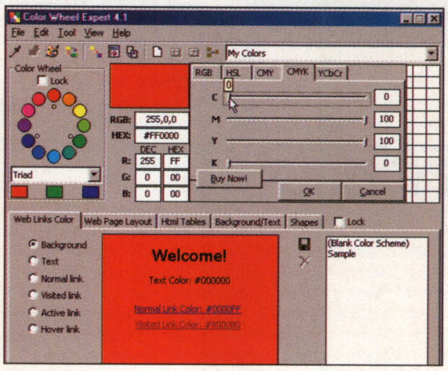
Normal Link Color: #0000FF

Visited Link Color: #800080

(Blank Color Scheme)
Sample

5 Save your colour

Once you are happy with the colour scheme, it's possible to add a shade to your own colour collection. This means that you will have a precise breakdown of the colour to use once you begin designing your site.


Color Wheel Expert 4.1
File Edit Tool View Help
My Colors
RGB
HSL
CMY
CMYK
YCbCr
Buy Now!
OK
Cancel
Web Links Color
Web Page Layout
Html Tables
Background/Text
Shapes
Lock

RGB: 255,0,0 HEX: #FF0000

C 0 M 100 Y 100 K 0

Welcome!

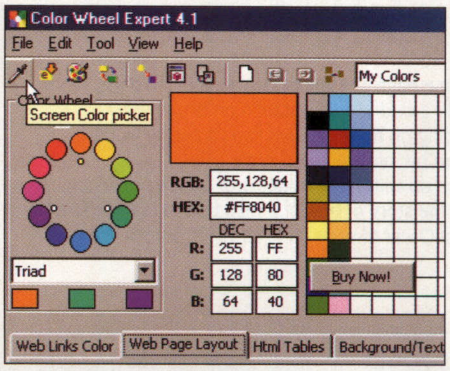
Text Color: #000000

Normal Link Color: #0000FF

Visited Link Color: #800080

6 Custom selection

You can also add your own print-based colour specifications. Found under the 'Tool', 'Colour Conversion' menu, these enable you to create Web-ready colours from a brochure, catalogue or other printed matter.


Color Wheel Expert 4.1
File Edit Tool View Help
My Colors
Screen Color picker
Triad
Buy Now!
Web Links Color
Web Page Layout
Html Tables
Background/Text

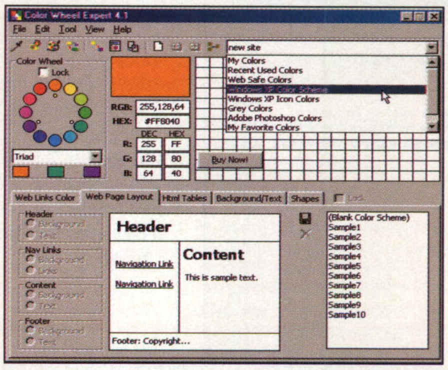
RGB: 255,128,64

HEX: #FF8040

	DEC	HEX
R:	255	FF
G:	128	80
B:	64	40

8 Other options

Another useful idea is the Color Picker. Found in the top left-hand corner, this lets you take a sample colour from anywhere on your computer screen, or from a current site design, and create a complimentary scheme.

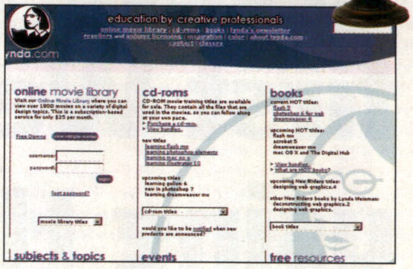

Color Wheel Expert 4.1
File Edit Tool View Help
new site
My Colors
Recent Used Colors
Web Safe Colors
Windows XP Color Scheme
Windows XP Icon Colors
Grey Colors
Adobe Photoshop Colors
My Favorite Colors
Triad
Buy Now!
Web Links Color
Web Page Layout
Html Tables
Background/Text
Shapes
Header
Navigation Link
Content
This is sample text.
Footer: Copyright...
(Blank Color Scheme)
Sample1
Sample2
Sample3
Sample4
Sample5
Sample6
Sample7
Sample8
Sample9
Sample10

RGB: 255,128,64 HEX: #FF8040

9 Finish up

It's also possible to create colour schemes to fit in with schemes you've created, as well as Photoshop and Windows XP interface colours. This makes it even easier to end up with a Web colour scheme that is great on the eyes.

Web resources


education by creative professionals
lynda.com
online movie library
cd-roms
books
subjects & topics
events
free resources

Linda

www.linda.com

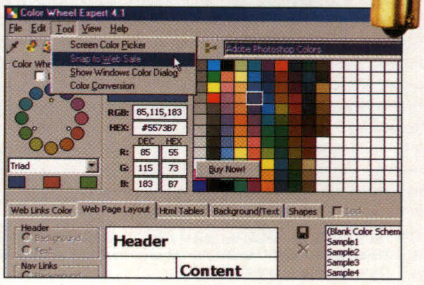
This is a fantastic site for finding out about all manner of information relating to Web creation. The issue of how to make the best decisions when using colour is comprehensively covered within these exciting HTML pages. Find out how to get the best from your colour options with some excellent practical advice.

Abitom

www.abitom.com

This site is just the ticket if you're after more information about Color Wheel Expert. Find out more about the program, or buy the full version if you like what you see here.

Power users' tip


Color Wheel Expert 4.1
File Edit Tool View Help
Screen Color Picker
Snap to Web Safe
Show Windows Color Dialog
Color Conversion
Adobe Photoshop Colors
Triad
Buy Now!
Web Links Color
Web Page Layout
Html Tables
Background/Text
Shapes
Header
Content
(Blank Color Scheme)
Sample1
Sample2
Sample3
Sample4

RGB: 85,115,183 HEX: #557387

IF YOU GO to the 'Tool' menu, you can ensure you have a selection of colours that work dependably on any kind of computer screen. This is known as the Web Safe colour palette and can be created simply and easily. Using this palette means that you will avoid running into problems when Web site visitors view your pages on different computers. For example, colours are displayed differently on various computer platforms; the most common examples being PCs and Apple Macs.

In brief:
Task: Learn the basics of HTML Coding
Software I need: Any text editor
Difficulty: Beginner
Time I need: 40 minutes

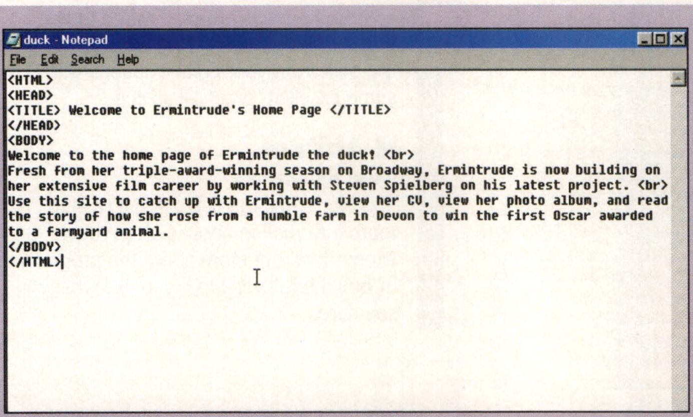
Create your very first Web page using HTML

TAKE FULL CONTROL OF YOUR WEB DESIGN BY LEARNING HOW TO CODE PAGES MANUALLY

IF YOU'VE BEEN reading this fine magazine, you will have worked out that using the Internet is as easy as falling off a log. What you might not have realised is that setting up your own Web page is just as easy, and can be done by anybody.

As you may already know, Web pages are written in a language called HTML, which stands for HyperText Markup Language. There are a number of advanced programs available that can be used to create HTML Web pages – popular ones include Macromedia's Dreamweaver, or Adobe's GoLive. These programs let you build a Web page using graphical design interfaces, similar to desktop publishing programs, with drag-and-drop page design and libraries of easily-inserted code.

This sort of interface is called What You See Is What You Get (WYSIWYG), as what you



```
<HTML>
<HEAD>
<TITLE> Welcome to Ermintrude's Home Page </TITLE>
</HEAD>
<BODY>
Welcome to the home page of Ermintrude the duck! <br>
Fresh from her triple-award-winning season on Broadway, Ermintrude is now building on
her extensive film career by working with Steven Spielberg on his latest project. <br>
Use this site to catch up with Ermintrude, view her CV, view her photo album, and read
the story of how she rose from a humble farm in Devon to win the first Oscar awarded
to a farmyard animal.
</BODY>
</HTML>
```

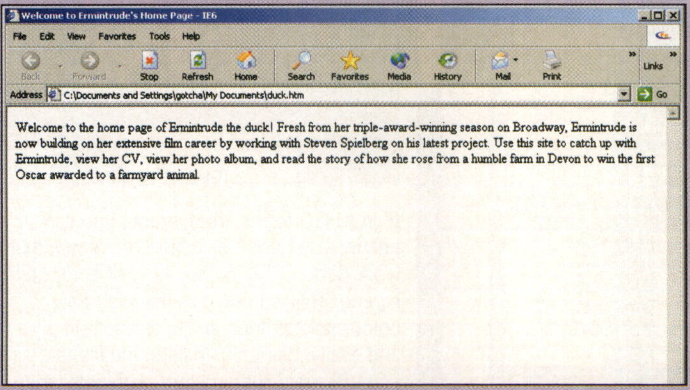
1 Get started

To get started, type in the first tag: <html>. You have to include this tag at the beginning of each page to specify that it's an HTML document. Once you've got that out of the way, you can start to put things into your page. For this tutorial, we'll create a basic page for an up-and-coming Hollywood starlet.

```
<head>
<title>
Welcome to Ermintrude's Home Page
</title>
</head>
```

2 A tempting title

We're going to create a site to showcase the considerable star power of Ermintrude the duck, so we'll title the page accordingly. Notice that the tags go in pairs, with the second one having the extra '/' in it. This marks the end of that particular section – eg </title> marks the end of the title text.


Welcome to Ermintrude's Home Page - IE6
File Edit View Favorites Tools Help
Back
Forward
Stop
Refresh
Home
Search
Favorites
Media
History
Mail
Print
Links
Address
C:\Documents and Settings\gotcha\My Documents\duck.htm
Go

Welcome to the home page of Ermintrude the duck! Fresh from her triple-award-winning season on Broadway, Ermintrude is now building on her extensive film career by working with Steven Spielberg on his latest project. Use this site to catch up with Ermintrude, view her CV, view her photo album, and read the story of how she rose from a humble farm in Devon to win the first Oscar awarded to a farmyard animal.

5 Line breaks

So far, all the page has is a title and some plain text. Because only the most basic HTML tags have been used to create the page, the text is a single continuous line, limited only by the size of the browser window. To make it look a little more interesting, some more tags are needed.

```
<body>
<p>Welcome to the home page of Ermintrude the duck! </p>
<p>Fresh from her triple-award-winning season on Broadway,
Ermintrude is now building on her extensive film career by working
with Steven Spielberg on his latest project. </p>
<p>Use this site to catch up with Ermintrude, view her CV, view her
photo album, and read the story of how she rose from a humble farm
in Devon to win the first Oscar awarded to a farmyard animal.</p>
</body>
```

6 Align your text

One of the simplest tags is <p>, which signifies a paragraph break, like pressing Enter twice on a word processor. If you try to break up the text by leaving empty lines in the HTML, it won't work – the browser will just ignore the empty spaces. You have to use specific tags to have an effect.

design in the program is exactly what the finished Web page will look like. This is invaluable for professional Web designers, who need to produce and modify pages very quickly. They also benefit the professional as they support advanced features such as video-editing, Flash animations, and JavaScript.

The bare necessities

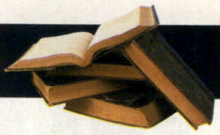
Although these programs can be invaluable for more advanced site design, the basics of HTML are actually very simple and don't require anything more complex than a word processing program. For home pages, it makes much more sense to try the original – and some would say the best – way of creating Web pages, which is to use the bare-bones HTML code.

You might think that a programming language like HTML would be fiendishly complicated, but it's remarkably simple to create Web pages using the most basic of commands. As long as you follow a few simple rules, you can be up on the Net in a jiffy with your own home page using nothing more than Windows Notepad.

We'll be starting with the very basics of how to create a simple site, and then looking at more advanced HTML in coming issues to show you how to create a work of Internet art. Even if you do plan on using editing software like Dreamweaver later on, it's enormously helpful to know the basics of HTML, and you can bask in the rosy glow of knowing that you've hand-crafted your very own Web site.

The first thing you will need to create a Web page is a text-editing program – the more basic, the better. For PC users, Windows Notepad is ideal; if you're using a Mac, SimpleText is the program for you.

Jargon buster



■ HTML

HyperText Markup Language – the language used to create the Web.

■ Tag

An HTML command. Tags are enclosed in angular brackets, and usually come in pairs to mark the beginning and the end of a Web page section.

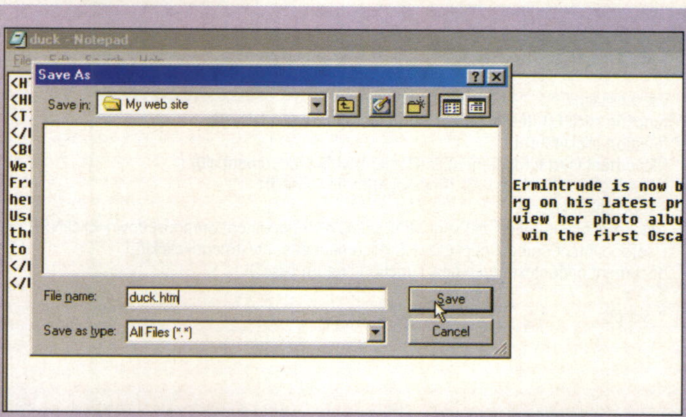
Align

A part of some HTML tags. Align is the same as text justification in a word processor – it specifies whether something should be placed on the left, the right, or centre of the line it's on.

```
<body>
Welcome to the home page of Ermintrude the duck! Fresh from her triple-
award-winning season on Broadway, Ermintrude is now building on her
extensive film career by working with Steven Spielberg on his latest project.
Use this site to catch up with Ermintrude, view her CV, view her photo
album, and read the story of how she rose from a humble farm in Devon to
win the first Oscar awarded to a farmyard animal.
</body>
</html>
```

3 The body text

Now we can move on to the other section of the page, which is where the visible content will reside, between the <body> and </body> tags. This is where the main text of the page is positioned: ie everything that you want the visitor to see.



File name: duck.htm

Save as type: All Files (*.*)

```
<H
<HI
<T
</
<B
We
Fr
he
Us
th
to
</
</
Ermintrude is now b
rg on his latest pr
view her photo albu
 win the first Osca
```

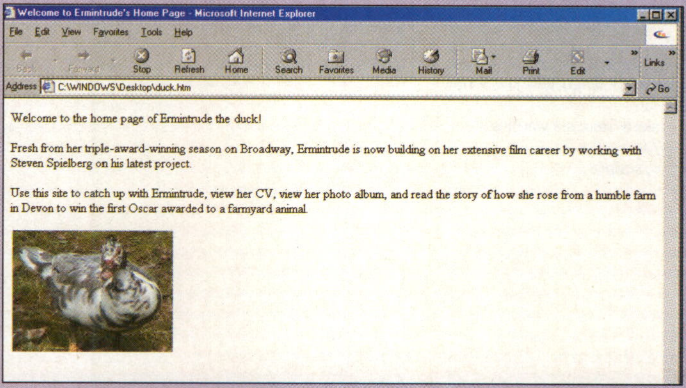
4 Save to be safe

This completes an extremely basic Web page. The final touch is to save it as an HTML document, with the filename extension **.htm**. To do this in Notepad, choose 'Save As' from the 'File' menu, and set the file type as 'All files'. Then, type in the filename with the **.htm** extension. We'll call this 'duck.htm'.

```
<p><img src="ermintrude1.jpg" align=left>
Use this site to catch up with Ermintrude, view her CV, view her
photo album, and read the story of how she rose from a humble
farm in Devon to win the first Oscar awarded to a farmyard
animal.</p>
</body>
```

7 Meet the duck

All Web pages look much nicer with pictures, which are shown using the <img> tag. Make sure your image is saved in the same place as the page, or it won't display. The ALIGN property specifies where the image appears on the line – LEFT, RIGHT, or CENTER.



Welcome to Ermintrude's Home Page - Microsoft Internet Explorer
File Edit View Favorites Tools Help
Back
Forward
Stop
Refresh
Home
Search
Favorites
Media
History
Mail
Print
Edit
Links
Go

Address: C:\WINDOWS\Desktop\duck.htm

Welcome to the home page of Ermintrude the duck!

Fresh from her triple-award-winning season on Broadway, Ermintrude is now building on her extensive film career by working with Steven Spielberg on his latest project.

Use this site to catch up with Ermintrude, view her CV, view her photo album, and read the story of how she rose from a humble farm in Devon to win the first Oscar awarded to a farmyard animal.

8 Finished product

Here's how the saved page looks in a Web browser. Simple but effective, Ermintrude has finally joined the ranks of Webbed ducks. All that remains is to put her page online – you may be able to do this easily using your ISP's free Web space, but we'll cover it more next issue.

In brief:
Task: Add simple JavaScript codes to improve your site
Software I need: NotePad
Difficulty: Advanced
Time I need: 50 minutes

Jazz up your site with these easy JavaScript codes

YOU DON'T NEED TO LEARN A TRICKY PROGRAMMING LANGUAGE TO ADD SOME DYNAMIC TOUCHES TO YOUR SITE. A FEW LINES OF JAVASCRIPT WILL DO THE TRICK

SOMETIMES IT CAN seem that the Web is running away from the lone developer. Development tools are becoming more expensive and complicated, while signing up for various content management back-ends seems to be almost obligatory. But this is largely an illusion, encouraged by software companies and consultants wanting to sell their own products and services. You don't really need a content management server in order to make your pages more dynamic. Instead, you can do it using JavaScript.

JavaScript is a client-side programming language (or, strictly speaking, a scripting language – it's interpreted rather than compiled), so is run by the browser rather than the server. The disadvantage of this is that there's no guarantee JavaScript will run on all

```
<script language="JavaScript">
<!–
var message="";
function clickIE() {if (document.all) {(message);return false;}}
function clickNS(e) {if
(document.layers||(document.getElementById&&!document.all)) {
if (e.which==2||e.which==3) {(message);return false;}}}
if (document.layers)
{document.captureEvents(Event.MOUSEDOWN);document.onmousedown=clickNS;}
else{document.onmouseup=clickNS;document.oncontextmenu=clickIE;}
document.oncontextmenu=new Function("return false")
// -->
</script>
```

1 Disable right-click

This will keep out those casual data thieves who want to right-click on your documents to copy text or images. It won't keep out the professionals, and it doesn't work with Opera, but it will prevent IE and Netscape users wanting to take what isn't theirs.

```
<script language="JavaScript">

<BODY OnLoad="document.form1.username.focus();">


<form name="form1">

Name:  <input type=text name=username size=11>

</form>

</script>
```

2 Focus automatically on a text box

If you have a form page filled with text boxes, it's often advisable to let the visitor start typing away as soon as he or she enters the site. Rather than making them click on the first window to enter text in it, you can place the text cursor in the top box automatically. The simple code above will do exactly this.

```
<script language="JavaScript">
<!--
alert("Here's a warning!")
//-->
</script>
```

5 Create an alert box

One of the easiest things to do in JavaScript is to pop up a message box warning the user about something, with an 'OK' button to clear the message. This can be done with just one line of code, as in the following example, but it can be useful in letting people know when something's gone wrong.

```
<script language="JavaScript">
<!--
function pullDown() {
var longmenu='';
longmenu+='<SELECT
NAME="gotopages"
onChange="jumpTo(this)">\n';
longmenu+='<OPTION SELECTED>Jump
to...</OPTION>\n';
longmenu+='<OPTION></OPTION>\n';
longmenu+='<OPTION
VALUE="news.htm">News</OPTION>\n
';
longmenu+='<OPTION
VALUE="products.htm">Products</OPTI
ON>\n';
longmenu+='<OPTION
VALUE="contacts.htm">Contacts</OPTI
ON>\n';
longmenu+='</SELECT>\n';
document.write(longmenu);
}
function jumpTo(s) {
var newpath =
s.options[s.selectedIndex].value;
if (newpath) {
top.location = newpath;
}
}
pullDown();
//-->
</script>
```

6 Create a quick-jump box

If you're short of space on the page, use this quick-jump box to allow your visitors to get to where they want to go. The browser redirect command is sent as soon as an option is chosen – there's no need to press a confirmation button. You can change the text and the links, and add new <OPTION> entries.

client machines. Some browsers don't support it, others will have it switched off for whatever reason, while some may run a type of JavaScript that's not compatible with others.

For this reason, you should provide an alternative to JavaScript wherever possible, using the <NOSCRIPT> tags to let the browser know what to do. This means that any visitors to your site without JavaScript capability will still be able to access all your pages.

Anyone's playground

You don't need to be a programming genius to work with JavaScript. If you're familiar with HTML, a bit of cut and paste will get you through. Generally, you'll find that JavaScript code is embedded into HTML pages. Sometimes, though, the JavaScript will be pulled from an external file, which is useful if you have a lot of pages all using the same script.

So, what exactly can you do with JavaScript? Plenty. You can create sliding, drop-down menus, have fireworks going off in the background of your site, dynamically refresh pages and banner advertisements, display scrolling messages in the browser's status bar, create 'mouseover' effects that change the design of buttons and links when the mouse cursor rolls over them, and much more. All of this can make your Web site much more interesting and involving than static HTML.

Just embed your chosen script in an HTML page and load it in a browser to test the result. Some scripts can be put within the <HEAD> </HEAD> section, while others will work best in the <BODY> section of the page. Experiment to see what works best for you.

Jargon buster

■ DHTML

Some of the code used to make sites interactive is known as DHTML or Dynamic HTML. Think of this as a combination of conventional HTML, JavaScript and style sheets. The HTML component is there to provide basic page layout, the style sheets let you apply formatting to a document without changing its original structure, and the JavaScript is the bit that handles the more complex user interactivity. So if you can't find what you want by searching the Web for 'JavaScript', try searching for 'DHTML' instead.

```
<script language="JavaScript">
<!--
var bookmarkurl="http://dynamicdrive.com"
var bookmarktitle="Dynamic Drive DHTML Code Library"
function addbookmark(){
if (document.all)
window.external.AddFavorite(bookmarkurl,bookmarktitle)
}
// -->
</script>
<a href="javascript:addbookmark()">Bookmark this site!</a>
```

3 Bookmark this site

Make life easier for your visitors by allowing them to quickly and easily add your site to their Favorites list. The script above and the associated HREF tag will bring up a box asking the user for confirmation that the named site will be bookmarked. Change the two variables in the code to suit your site.

```
<script language="JavaScript">
<!--
var text = "Scrolling text here";
var counter = 0;
var delay = 50;
var loop = 0;
while (loop ++ < 140)
text = " " + text;
function doit()
{
window.status = text.substring(counter++,text.length);
if (counter == text.length)
counter = 0;
setTimeout("doit()", delay);
}
doit();
//-->
</script>
```

4 Scroll text in the status window

You can add little hints, tips, comments and special offers in the browser's status window. This looks particularly good if the text is scrolling in from right to left, which is what this script will do. Change the text to whatever you want displayed.

```
function insertGraphics() {
var alttext='Click here for our latest product range!';
var graphicswidth='150';
var graphicsheight='90';
var graphicsurl='newproducts.jpg';
var linkurl='newproducts.htm';
var imageoutput='<A HREF="'+linkurl+'"><IMG SRC="'+graphicsurl+'"
WIDTH="'+graphicswidth+'" HEIGHT="'+graphicsheight+'" ALT="'+alttext+'"
BORDER="1"></A>\n';
document.write(imageoutput);
}

<script language="JavaScript">
<!--
insertGraphics();
//-->
</script>
```

7 Insert updated graphics in all your pages

If you don't want to change all pages when just one item needs to be updated, use this. Pull in the first part using an external JavaScript file (so you can link it from your pages) then place the next part in your HTML pages. You can then update the JavaScript file whenever you need, leaving the pages intact.

```
<script language="JavaScript">
<!--
adwidth=468;
adheight=60;
adurl='http://www.mysite.com/scripts/adverts.cgi';
var bust=Math.floor(1000000*Math.random());
var outputad='';
outputad+='<IFR'+'AME SRC="'+adurl+'?'+bust+'" MARGINWIDTH="0"
MARGINHEIGHT="0" FRAMEBORDER="0" SCROLLING="NO"
WIDTH="'+adwidth+'" HEIGHT="'+adheight+'">\n';
outputad+='</IFR'+'AME>\n';
document.write(outputad);
//-->
</script>
```

8 Manage banner adverts

You'll get more banner impressions delivered on your site if you use a JavaScript 'cache-busting' algorithm that loads a new banner whenever the user clicks the 'back' or 'forward' buttons in their browser. This piece of script will deliver your ad code using a random number at the end of the URL.

In brief:
Task: Validate credit cards on your site before finalising purchases
Software I need: Any text editor and a Web host with PHP4
Difficulty: Advanced
Time I need: 40 minutes

Validate credit cards on your site with PHP

ANY ECOMMERCE SITE OFFERING ONLINE ORDERING NEEDS TO BE PROTECTED AGAINST CREDIT CARD FRAUD. HERE'S HOW TO DO JUST THAT WITH PHP

THE WORLD OF eCommerce can be a confusing place for the uninitiated and taking those first wary steps can cause even the strongest of characters to be filled with trepidation. However, there's no need for an anxiety attack. If you've already built your page, smoothed out any kinks and got yourself set up with a decent Web host, you've tackled the toughest challenges. One of the last hurdles you're faced with is credit card validation; a vital tool in the armoury of any eCommerce site keen to offer customers online ordering.

There are two methods that can be used to validate a credit card before placing these details in a database or forwarding them on to a merchant server. The first of these is based on the type of card used. For instance, Mastercard credit cards always start with a

```
<?

import_request_variables("GP", "cc_");

if ($cc_submit == "submit")
{
```

1 Create the page and import variables

We're going to be using a simple, self-contained PHP file named CCValidate.php. This file includes the HTML form as well as the code to check the validity of any information entered. The first step is to import the requisite form information and check to see if the form has already been submitted.

```
$CCValid = TRUE;

if(empty($cc_Name))
{
        $CCValid = FALSE;
print "<p style=‘color:red;’>Please ensure you enter the name as printed on the credit card.</p>";
}
```

2 Check the form input

The first thing to do is create a 'Boolean' variable (a variable that equals either TRUE or FALSE), which will determine whether the credit card details are valid. But first, let's make sure the user entered the name of the credit card holder. If they haven't, we'll set $CCValid to FALSE and output an error message.

```
 $bwNumber = strrev($ccNumber);
        $totalNumber = 0;

        for ($i = 0; $i < strlen($bwNumber); $i++)
        {
                $num = substr($bwNumber, $i, 1);

                if ($i % 2 == 1)
                {
                        $num *= 2;
                }

                if ($num > 9)
                {
                        $firstNum = $num % 10;
                        $secondNum = ($num - $firstNum) / 10;
                        $num = $firstNum + $secondNum;
                }

                $totalNumber += $num;
        }
```

5 Run the card through the algorithms

First we turn the credit card number back to front, then we take every second number in the credit card variable and multiply it by two. Where this number is more than nine we separate the digits and add these together. Once this is done, every digit in the credit card number is added together.

```
if ($totalNumber % 10 != 0)
{
        $CCValid = FALSE;
print "<p style=‘color:red;’>The credit card number you provided was invalid. Please check your details and try again.</p>";
}
}
```

6 Check the validity of the number

Here we test the result of the previous equations to ensure it complies with the MOD 10 algorithm (using the % symbol for MOD equations). The MOD 10 algorithm simply divides the number by 10 and if there are any remainders, the number is invalid.

five, followed by a number between one and five. They also have to be 16 digits in length, whereas a VISA credit card must start with a four and be either 13 or 16 digits in length.

The second method involves a number of algorithms known collectively as MOD 10. This involves a credit card being passed through a series of equations and manipulations in order to discover if it is valid. Every valid credit card will pass this test.

What's involved

The actual process involved in the MOD 10 algorithm isn't an overly complex one, once you get to grips with it. To begin with, the credit card number needs to be reversed. Once this is done, every second digit in the number is doubled. If there is a number with more than two digits, these digits are added together as opposed to counting them as a whole number (so if five is doubled to make ten, the one and the zero would be added together to get one). Now every number that was multiplied is added to those that weren't.

In order for the credit card to be valid, this resulting number must be a multiple of ten so it can pass through the MOD 10 algorithm with no remainder. In other words, 80 can be divided by ten, and is therefore a valid number. If there were any remainders (eg if 82 was divided by ten), the credit card number will have been proved invalid.

However helpful it is, this test still doesn't guarantee that it is a real credit card number or that a bank will accept the transaction. You'll still need some sort of merchant back service in order to process this transaction and ensure that the card is real and the funds are available.

Jargon buster

■ MOD 10

MOD 10 stands for MODULA 10, and is a simple mathematical algorithm. The process involved in credit card validation includes a number of other processes and equations not necessarily connected with MOD 10, but MOD 10 is the final mathematical proof of validity.

■ PHP

Stands for PHP: Hypertext Preprocessor. PHP itself is a server-side scripting language that has grown more and more popular over the years and has excellent functionality as far as database manipulation is concerned.

```
$ccNumber = ereg_replace("[^0-9]", "", $cc_Number);

if (empty($ccNumber))
{
        $CCValid = FALSE;
print "<p style='color:red;'>You did not enter a valid credit card number.
Please try again.</p>";
}
```

3 Remove spaces and characters

Now it's time to check the credit card number. Before we run the credit card through the MOD 10 algorithms, we'll need to remove any extraneous characters or spaces using the ereg_replace function, then check to make sure we still have some characters left.

```
$validType = false;

switch($cc_Type)
{
            case "Mastercard":
                        $validType = ereg("^5[1-5][0-9]{14}$", $ccNumber);
                        break;
            case "Visa":
                        $validType = ereg("^4[0-9]{12}([0-9]{3})?$", $ccNumber);
                        break;
            case "American Express":
                        $validType = ereg("^3[47][0-9]{13}$", $ccNumber);
                        break;
            case "Diners Club":
                        $validType = ereg("^3(0[0-5]|[68][0-9])[0-9]{11}$", $ccNumber);
                        break;
}

if (!$validType)
{
            $CCValid = FALSE;
print "<p style='color:red;'>The credit card number you provided is not a valid $cc_Type
number.</p>";
}
```

4 Check credit card type

We now need to check the credit card type. There are four different types of cards we will be checking, using the ereg function, each with their own set of criteria. If you want to accept a different credit card type, you can insert another case process here to cater for it.

```
If ($cc_submit != "submit" OR !$CCValid)
{
?>

            <form action='CCValidate.php' method=post>
            <p>Please enter your credit card details below.</p>
            <p>Card Holder's Name <input type='text' size='25' name='Name'></p>
<p>Type <select name='Type'> <option>Mastercard</option> <option>Visa</option>
<option>American Express</option><option>Diners Club</option></select></p>
            <p>Card Number <input type='text' size='25' name='Number'></p>
            <p>
                        Expiry Date:
<select name="ExpM"> <?php for($i = 1; $i < 13; $i++) { print "<option> $i </option>"; } ?> </select>
<select name="ExpY"> <?php for($i = 2002; $i < 2013; $i++) { print "<option> $i </option>"; } ?>
</select>
            </p>
            <input type='hidden' name='submitted' value='yes'>
            <p><input type='submit' name='submit' value='submit'></p>
            </form>
<?
}
```

7 The HTML form

Now we have to create the HTML form for the credit card details to be entered (note we use some handy PHP code to make this a lot easier). Of course, we'll only display this form if the relevant information hasn't already been submitted, or if the information entered had something wrong with it.

```
If ($CCValid)
{
            print "<p>Your credit card is valid. Thank you for your
transaction. We look forward to doing business with you in the
future.</p>";
            /*
                        Now you have the credit card details and are sure
of their validity. This is where you put any code that processes the
transaction and/or stores the details.
            */
}
?>
```

8 Offer your thanks

If the details are correct, let's display a friendly message thanking the user for the transaction. If the details are incorrect, this script will automatically display the form again with a helpful message pointing out where details were incorrect or invalid.

Webmaster Q&A

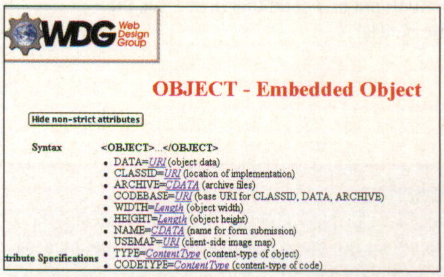
JAMES SEABRIGHT ANSWERS YOUR WEB SITE BUILDING QUERIES. EMAIL HIM ON JAMES@BRIGHTCHOICE.INFO

The <object> tag is the best way to embed a sound in a Web page, but there's no guarantee it will work on all Web browsers

Sound stress

Q I've found that most advice about embedding sound on Web pages doesn't work consistently on a range of browsers. Many still suggest using <embed> which I thought was on its way out.

Quite a few sites I know of use <embed> to autoplay any sound or movie. This method lets sounds autoplay, start, pause, and stop, using the same general principles. This simple, clean solution worked in both Netscape and Internet Explorer. Unfortunately, Netscape 6 seems to have no sound capability: the new <object> code doesn't seem to work with it.



OBJECT - Embedded Object

Syntax <OBJECT>...</OBJECT>

tribute Specifications
- DATA=URI (object data)
- CLASSID=URI (location of implementation)
- ARCHIVE=CDATA (archive files)
- CODEBASE=URI (base URI for CLASSID, DATA, ARCHIVE)
- WIDTH=Length (object width)
- HEIGHT=Length (object height)
- NAME=CDATA (name for form submission)
- USEMAP=URI (client-side image map)
- TYPE=ContentType (content-type of object)
- CODETYPE=ContentType (content-type of code)

The Web Design Group's excellent site at www.htmlhelp.com can help with your embedded HTML headache

So, what is the correct way to put controllable sound on a page in a way that works consistently across browsers? The front page of **www.learningenglish.net** will give you an idea of what I want to achieve.

Rob Cameron

A There is no guaranteed way of ensuring that a sound will play consistently across different browsers, as the official standards and software behaviour varies wildly. In the (unlikely) event that all browsers responded in the same way, there would still be problems to address such as end users without sound capabilities on their computers and those with sound who have the volume turned down.

The <object> tag is the best way to embed a sound – or any other item reliant on a plug-in – in a Web page. It does rely on the browser being equipped to handle the file type you're specifying in the tag, although that shouldn't be a problem with standard sound formats, such as WAV, which are quite widely supported.

Here's an example of an auto-starting sound which does not display a control palette, ie the user has no way of stopping or rewinding the sound:

```
<object data="mysound.wav"
type="audio/x-wav" title="My cheesy
background tune">
<param name=autostart value=true>
<param name=hidden value=true>
</object>
```

For a more detailed coverage of the <object> tag, including examples of how to use it to incorporate other media types in your Web pages, take a look at the comprehensive reference file at www.htmlhelp.com/reference/html40/special/object.html.

Frolics with Favorites

Q A number of sites in my Internet Explorer Favorites list have customised icons next to the site title. Any chance you could shed some light on how to make one of these for my site?

Victor Southern

A Good news – getting a custom Favorite icon for your site is a relatively simple process. It basically involves creating a small graphic in a special format and then adding some HTML code to your index page to make the browser load in the graphic. It's all described in far greater detail

Readers' tip

Include ingenuity

In a response you gave to Allan Punton in issue 69, you mention that using PHP you can include files. It's a minor point but naming files with a **.inc** extension is not recommended. Visitors can generally view the contents of the **.inc** file, therefore creating a security hazard (as you may have your db username and password in such a file).

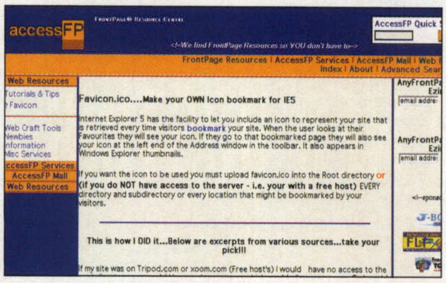
There are several ways to prevent this. One way is to name all include files with a **.php** extension so that the server will interpret them instead of showing them.

Probably the safest thing to do would be not to put **.inc** files under DocumentRoot at all. Put them somewhere else and change include_path in php.ini. This way only your PHP scripts will be able to get to them and the Web server won't even see them.

Personally, I differentiate my include and require files by preceding the filename with an underscore, for example, <? include '_mnu.php'; ?>

Lloyd Roseblade

at the FrontPage resource centre site (www.accessfp.net/faviconico.htm) than space permits here. This site also includes a healthy number of links to software tools that will help you create graphics in the required format, and explains the simple HTML alterations required to create the custom Favorite icon.


accessFP
FrontPage® Resource Centre
<!--We find FrontPage Resources so YOU don't have to-->
AccessFP Quick
FrontPage Resources | AccessFP Services | AccessFP Mall | Web
Index | About | Advanced Sear
Web Resources
Tutorials & Tips
Favicon
Web Craft Tools
Newbies
Information
Misc Services
AccessFP Services
AccessFP Mall
Web Resources
AnyFrontP
Ezi
email addre
AnyFrontP
Ezi
email addre

Favicon.ico....Make your OWN Icon bookmark for IE5

Internet Explorer 5 has the facility to let you include an icon to represent your site that is retrieved every time visitors bookmark your site. When the user looks at their Favourites they will see your icon. If they go to that bookmarked page they will also see your icon at the left end of the Address window in the toolbar. It also appears in Windows Explorer thumbnails.

If you want the icon to be used you must upload favicon.ico into the Root directory or (if you do NOT have access to the server - i.e. your with a free host) EVERY directory and subdirectory or every location that might be bookmarked by your visitors.

This is how I DID it...Below are excerpts from various sources...take your pick!!!

If my site was on Tripod.com or xoom.com (Free host's) I would have no access to the

Find out more about using FrontPage as well as other nifty Web design tricks at www.accessfp.net

In need of speed

Q Friends have told me that my Web site takes a long time to load over a modem connection. It's difficult for me to judge this as I use a high speed line to access the Web. Can you recommend any ways that my site could be made more efficient? Do I even have to worry about this, seeing as lots of people are upgrading to faster connections?

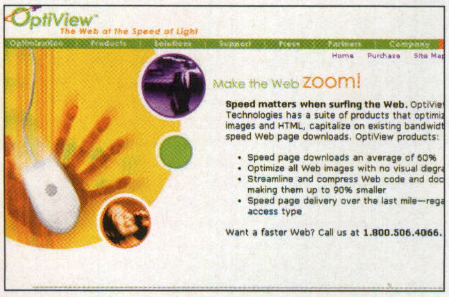
Trudy George

A **It is vital to remember that the majority of users are still connecting to the Internet with 56k modems, and that at peak times, it's difficult to navigate around graphic-heavy sites. As such, graphics are always the greatest area of concern to site builders. Quite a few sites suffer from too many images or ones that are too large. It is possible to cut down on the total number of images quite easily, though. For example, if you have a navigation system based on graphical buttons, you can merge them all into one large image file, and use an imagemap to create links to other pages.**

As far as graphic size is concerned, remember that some Web browser windows are only 600 pixels wide, so you should never use a graphic wider than 550 pixels. Also, when using GIF format images, it's possible to reduce the size of the colour table to save on file space. This can be done automatically using the optimisation features at www.optiview.com. If your image is in JPEG format, try increasing the compression ratio to a higher level – but remember that more compression means less image quality. As a general point, it's a good idea to provide users with thumbnails (small previews) of any particularly large images on your site, so they can decide whether it's worth downloading the full sized image.

Aside from graphics, a key element in site speed is the means of navigation used on your site. If you use the same collection of graphics for your navigation bars on each page, this will save time as the visitor's computer doesn't have to keep on reloading the same navigation images every time they go to a different page.

A good thing to aim for is to make sure your pages can be completely downloaded in 30 seconds on a modem line. This means that the HTML page and all the graphics associated with the page should not be more than 70Kb in total. If they are, try reducing the number of graphics or breaking the page up into a number of smaller pages.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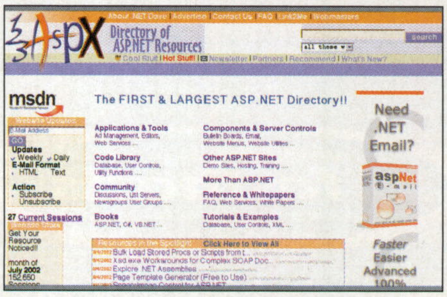
Squeeze your graphics down to size with the help of the service www.optiview.com. You have to pay for it, but it's worth it

Inactive server space

Q I'm learning about Active Server Page (ASP) programming and want to create a 'Tell a Friend' function. It seems to work (the details are filled out in friend.html and are shown in submission2.asp), but the message does not get sent. Any ideas on how to fix this?

Peter Hampton

A **There are a whole range of problems that could be making this happen; from a scripting error to a problem with the mail sending configuration on the Web server you're using. As you have not provided the script or details of the precise kind of ASP that you're using, it is difficult to diagnose. A good reference site for troubleshooting this problem or finding an alternative script is www.123aspx.com. If you have problems**


123ASPX
Directory of ASP.NET Resources
Cool Stuff | Hot Stuff! | Newsletter | Partners | Recommend | What's New?
Search
all these
msdn
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	More Than ASP.NET
Community Discussions, List Servers, Newsgroups User Groups	**Reference & Whitepapers** FAQ, Web Services, White Papers ....
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month of
July 2002
152,650

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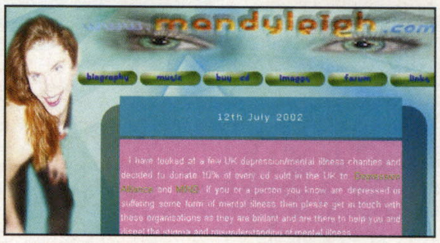
Anyone suffering at the hand of Active Server Programming can sort out their woes at www.123aspx.com →

Readers' sites

Share your site with us – send the URL to **james@paragon.co.uk**


mandyleigh.com
biography
music
buy cd
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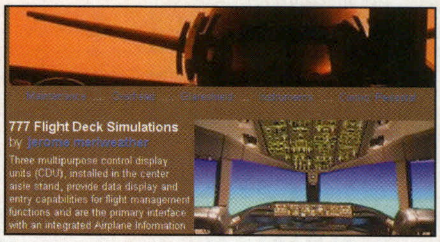
forum
links

12th July 2002

I have looked at a few UK depression/mental illness charities and decided to donate 10% of every cd sold in the UK to Depression Alliance and MIND. If you or a person you know are depressed or suffering some form of mental illness then please get in touch with these organisations as they are brilliant and are there to help you and

Mandy Leigh

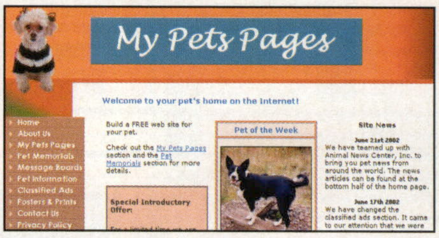
URL: www.mandyleigh.com
Creator: Gary Storm
Comment: Promoting the talents of an up-and-coming singer/songwriter, this is a decent site that sadly suffers from frames, which has caused the body text to not line up with the background of the viewing window. This can be improved by setting frames to a fixed size.


777 Flight Deck Simulations
by jerome meriweather

Three multipurpose control display units (CDU), installed in the center aisle stand, provide data display and entry capabilities for flight management functions and are the primary interface with an integrated Airplane Information

777 Flight Deck Simulations

URL: www.meriweather.com/flightdeck
Creator: Jerome Meriweather
Comment: Surely a unique Web resource, this site offers a run-down of the function of every switch you'll find in a variety of jet cockpits. The initial imagemap interfaces are good, but the JavaScript extras are gimmicks that quickly become annoying.


My Pets Pages
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My Pets Pages
Pet Memorials
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Pet of the Week

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Check out the My Pets Pages section and the Pet Memorials section for more details.

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Site News

June 21st 2002
We have teamed up with Animal News Center, Inc. to bring you pet news from around the world. The news articles can be found at the bottom half of the home page.

June 17th 2002
We have changed the classified ads section. It came to our attention that we were

My Pet's Pages

URL: www.mypetspages.com
Creator: Kevin Roxburgh
Comment: This is an excellent, well-designed site that shows the advantages of using PHP. The navigation is clearly set out, the interface is very straightforward, and there is a good range of attractive but unobtrusive images. It should also be a doddle to update.

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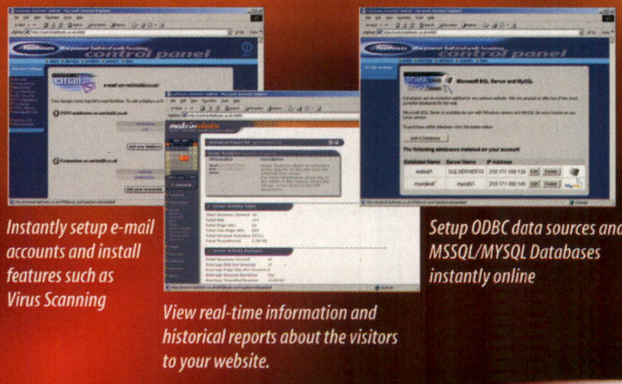

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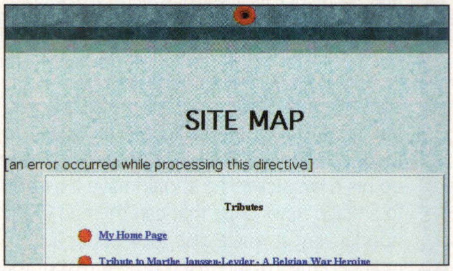
getting your head around ASP then it might be worth trying out PHP instead – refer to issues 64, 67 and 69 of *Practical Internet* for tutorials on this subject.

Site map unseen

Q Something strange has appeared recently on my site's map at http://noviomagus.tripod.com/sitemap.htm. The page is divided by a number of tables and sitting on the border of most of them is the phrase: "An error occurred while processing this directive". It's there in the source as well. I did report the problem to Tripod but have heard no more.

Tessa Steer

A **It sounds like either you or the Tripod service has accidentally incorporated an erratic script into the page. The reason that the message appears in the HTML source as well as in the browser window is because the script is executed on the server, so the source code you see on browsing the page will not contain the script itself but just the result of its execution. In this case, the result is just an error message. The best solution is to save the page to your hard disk, remove the error messages manually, and then upload the page back to the Web server. This should get rid of whatever script code ended up on the page in the first place.**



SITE MAP

[an error occurred while processing this directive]

Tributes

My Home Page

Tribute to Marthe Janssen-Leyder - A Belgian War Heroine

Accidentally using special characters can make a Web server think your page contains a script, which will result in strange error messages appearing like the one shown here

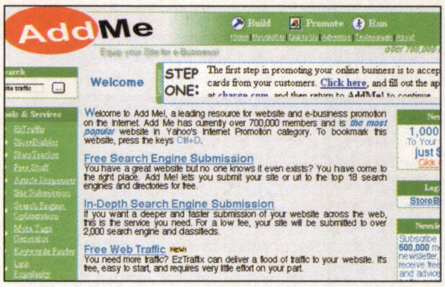
Searching for success

Q I have designed a site and it's not quite finished but I want to know what response I will get from other Web surfers. So I would like to register my site with some search engines to see how it fares.

Cheryl Rowntree

A **It's not a good idea to promote an unfinished site. Although you will probably get listed on search engines, that process may take some weeks. Worse still, site visitors won't tell you if there's something about the site they don't like. They simply won't come back again! You'd be better advised to put the site online without promoting it, and then to invite people you know to take a look and comment on the current design.**

Once you have finished the site, turn your attentions to promotion. To get some attention on zero budget, look no further than AddMe (www.addme.com) which will submit your site details to 30 of the most popular engines all at once. In terms of the submission services that cost money, it's worth considering one of the packages on offer at www.ineedhits.com. Even the cheapest service should get you listed with over 300 search engines in no time. A good British-based site that has prices around the same level is Signpost, at www.signpost-me.com. These are by no means the only submission tools available – the Open Directory (www.dmoz.org) lists many more.



STEP ONE: The first step in promoting your online business is to accep cards from your customers. Click here, and fill out the ap

Welcome to Add Me!, a leading resource for website and e-business promotion on the Internet. Add Me has currently over 700,000 members and is *the most popular* website in Yahoo's Internet Promotion category. To bookmark this website, press the keys Ctrl+D.

Free Search Engine Submission

You have a great website but no one knows it even exists? You have come to the right place. Add Me! lets you submit your site or url to the top 18 search engines and directories for free.

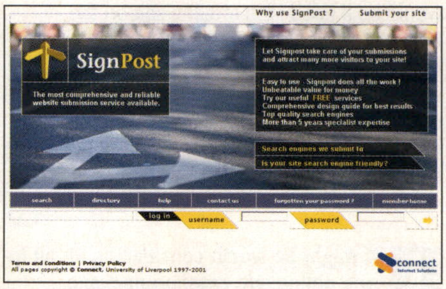
In-Depth Search Engine Submission

If you want a deeper and faster submission of your website across the web, this is the service you need. For a low fee, your site will be submitted to over 2,000 search engine and classifieds.

Free Web Traffic NEW!

You need more traffic? EzTraffix can deliver a flood of traffic to your website. It's free, easy to start, and requires very little effort on your part.

An excellent site to help with your promotional efforts is www.addme.com



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Ski site sought

Q I am trying to be the youngest person to ski the last degree to both of the poles. Unfortunately an expedition such as this is extremely expensive, and needs a great deal of sponsorship. People have suggested that it

Frame refresher

Q I often use my Web editing package to create a frameset, dividing up my Web page into a number of panes. But I find the configuration options quite limiting, and was wondering if you could explain how to manually code frames myself?

Lisa Binnie

A **Frames can be troublesome both during the creation process and also when being used by visitors to the site, as the way they appear is often inconsistent between different browsers. The best advice is to use frames sparingly, and if possible, to avoid building your main site interface around them. Warnings aside, here is a four-step outline on how to create a basic frame design for your site.**

```
<html>
<head><title>Page title goes
here</title></head>

<frameset cols="150,*">
```

1 Create a frameset file

A frameset file defines how you want frames to divide the browser window. The first part of such a file is shown above. The <frameset> tag specifies two columns be created, the first being 150 pixels across and the other taking up all the remaining page width.

```
<frame src="frame1.html" name="navigation"
frameborder="0">
<frame src="frame2.html" name="content"
frameborder="0">

</frameset>
</html>
```

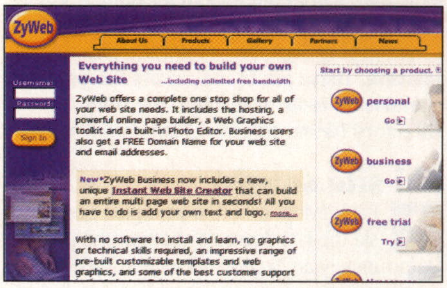
2 Complete the frameset file

What you see above is the second and final part of the frameset file begun in step one. The HTML files to load into the two frames are defined using <frame> tags, which also contain names for the frames, and a command to set frame borders at zero.

would be a good idea to get a site on the Internet. I have tried Dreamweaver and some other WYSIWYG editors, but don't get on well with them. I am having difficulty trying to decide on a host. The best deal that I have found is at **www.freeola.com** but I cannot find out what the bandwidth allocation is like.

Oliver-James Dyar

A It might be worth considering an all-in-one online site creation package, where you use your Web browser to create a site and it is stored online as part of the deal. A good example of this kind of service is www.zy.com. It offers a range of different level services at reasonable prices, plus a 30-day free trial offer. There's less of an initial investment than buying an off-the-shelf package, and if your site only needs to be online for a short period, you won't end up spending too much. If this doesn't sound appealing, another budget solution is to sign up for hosting with www.bluedomino.com, who will provide you with free CoffeeCup software to help build your site.



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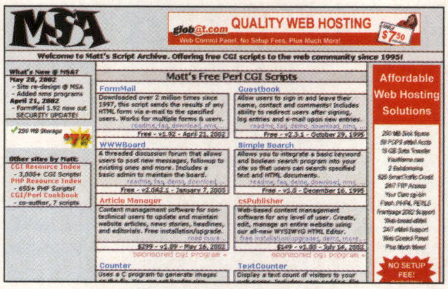
Create and host a site using just your Web browser, thanks to www.zy.com

Gimme graffiti

Q I want to put up a page where people can 'write' an advert onto the site. How can I achieve this? I guess something like a guestbook with a decent level of customisation. My service provider allows CGI scripts but I don't know how to use them.

Gerard Hopkins

A A guestbook sounds like the best thing for you. This will allow site visitors to leave a message, which will automatically be added to your site. While this is normally used for allowing users to pass comment on the site, there's no reason why it can't be adapted to your purpose. Plenty of free services are available to help you set one up, including Dreambook (www.dreambook.com), although this type of service is generally not very customisable. If your Web hosting service allows you to run Perl CGI scripts, then consider using the Matt's Script Archive classic Guest Book script available for free download from www.scriptarchive.com.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Welcome to Matt's Script Archive. Offering free CGI scripts to the web community since 1995!

What's New @ MSA?
May 28, 2002
- Site re-design @ MSA
- Added nms programs
April 21, 2002
- FormMail 1.92 now out
SECURITY UPDATE!

Other sites by Matt:
CGI Resource Index - 3,000+ CGI Scripts!
PHP Resource Index - 650+ PHP Scripts!
CGI/Perl Cookbook - co-author, 7 scripts

Matt's Free Perl CGI Scripts

FormMail: Downloaded over 2 million times since 1997, this script sends the results of any HTML form via e-mail to the specified users. Works for multiple forms & users. readme, faq, download, nms, ... Free - v1.92 - April 21, 2002

Guestbook: Allow users to sign in and leave their name, contact and comments! Includes ability to redirect users after signing, log entries and e-mail upon new entries. readme, faq, demo, download, nms, ... Free - v2.3.1 - October 29, 1995

WWWBoard: A threaded discussion forum that allows users to post new messages, followup to existing ones and more. Includes a basic admin to maintain the board. readme, faq, demo, download, ... Free - v2.0A2.1 - January 7, 2000

Simple Search: Allows you to integrate a basic keyword and boolean search program into your site so that users can search specified text and HTML documents. readme, faq, demo, download, nms, ... Free - v1.0 - December 16, 1995

Article Manager: Content management software for non-technical users to update and maintain website articles, news stories, headlines, and editorials. Free installation/upgrade. read more ... $299 - v1.09 - May 16, 2002 sponsored cgi program »

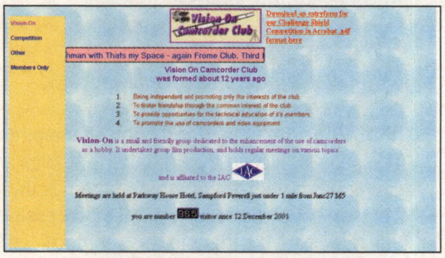
csPublisher: Web-based content management software for any level of user. Create, edit, manage an entire website using our all-new WYSIWYG HTML Editor. free installation/upgrades, demo, more ... $149 - v1.00 - July 14, 2002 sponsored cgi program »

Counter: Uses a C program to generate images

TextCounter: Display a text count of visitors to your

Matt's Script Archive at www.scriptarchive.com is a great source of free CGI material for your site

Design doctor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IAC
385

Vision On Camcorder Club was formed about 12 years ago

1. Being independent and promoting only the interests of the club.
2. To foster friendship through the common interest of the club.
3. To provide opportunities for the technical education of it's members.
4. To promote the use of camcorders and video equipment.

Vision-On is a small and friendly group dedicated to the enhancement of the use of camcorders as a hobby. It undertakes group film production, and holds regular meetings on various topics and is affiliated to the IAC

Meetings are held at Parkway House Hotel, Sampford Peverell just under 1 mile from Junc27 M5

you are number 385 visitor since 12 December 2001

Vision on Camcorder Club

Creator: Ron Hagley
URL: www.camcorderclub.co.uk

RON MIGHT BE able to give Spielberg a run for his money on film, but this minimalist Web site is definitely not Oscar material. Let's see what the Doctor can do to turn it from a *Blair Witch Project* to a *Gone With The Wind*.

On a scroll

The Java scrolling news ticker on the main page is a very frustrating way of providing information, as you have to wait for the text to scroll all the way through in order to read it. It would be more elegant to provide a conventional HTML page for the club news, and merely list the headlines in a section on the index page. If Ron's not prepared to give up his news ticker, he should have it as a link to a static news page that can be read in the normal way. It would also look better if it matched the colours used on the rest of the page – transparent text scrollers can be found for free at **www.javapowered.com**.

Title trouble

As the Queen well knows, titles are everything, but they are sadly lacking on this site. Ron's made the newbie mistake of not changing the <title> tags in his pages, so they all appear under the uninspiring heading of 'Untitled Document'. This is an easy thing to forget, but it makes a big difference to how professional the site looks, and it only takes a few minutes to correct.

Bar building

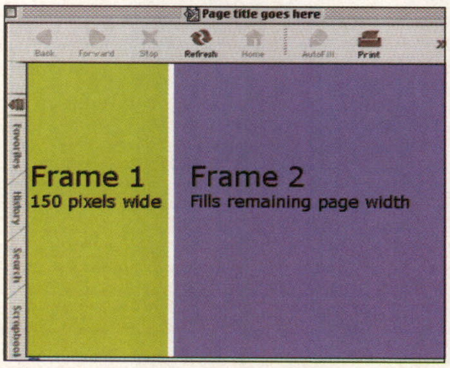
The expanding navigation bar works nicely enough, but it's not really necessary. For a new user, it's not obvious that there are any links other than the four section headings, which is rather off-putting. With so few site sections, it would be much better to list them all as conventional links in the navbar, indented under their group headings. Not having to wait for the menu to expand will also make navigating around the site much quicker, and a fuller navbar will make the site look less sparse.

Frame refresher continued...

```
<noframes><body>
<h1>Site title goes here</h1>
<p>Site description goes here</p>
<p>This site is based on a frames design your
browser can't handle, but it's still possible to view
the site. To access the main site index, please
click <a href="frame1.html">here</a>.</p>
</body></noframes>
```

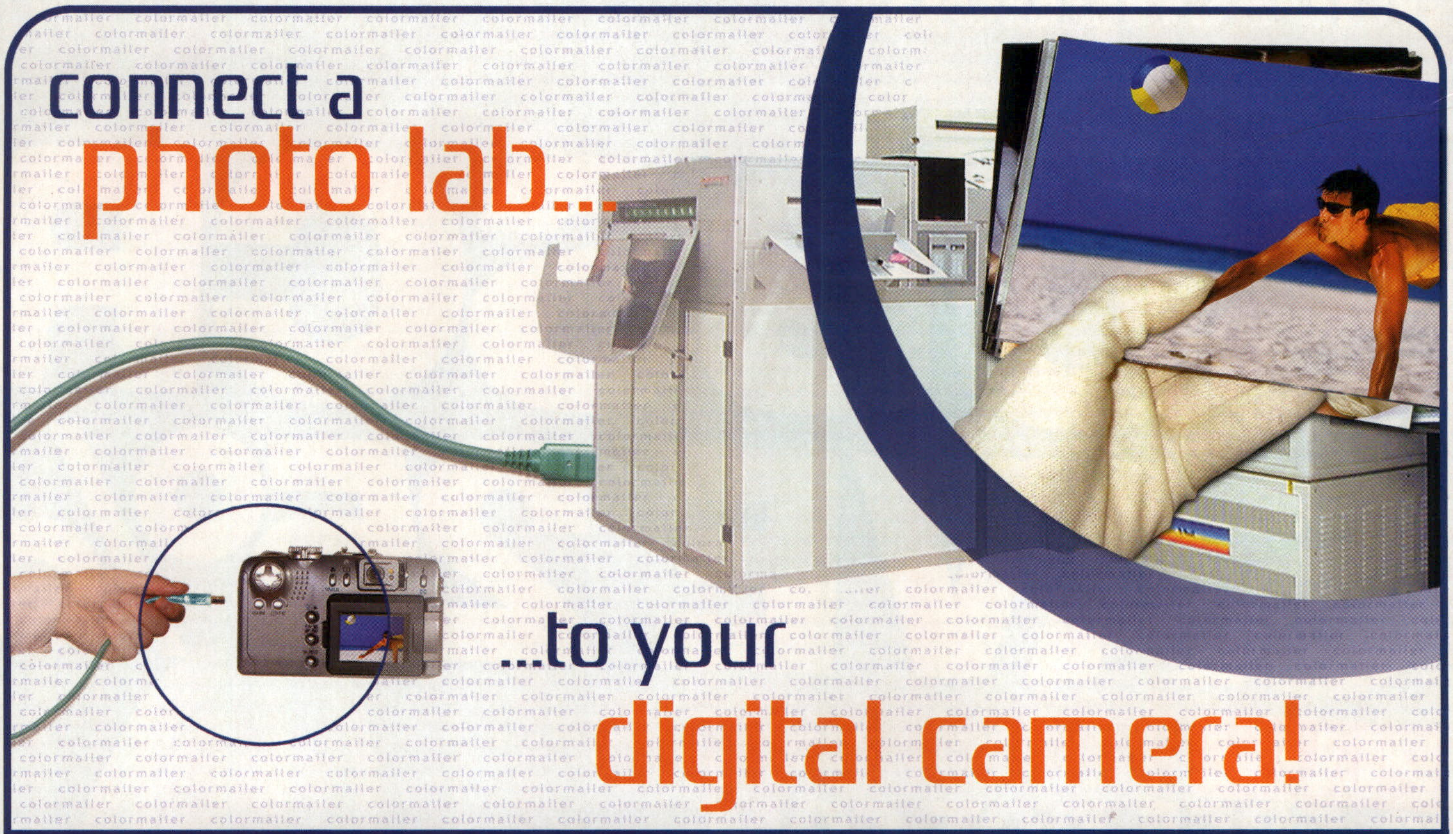
3 Just in case

The code shown above should be added before the </frameset> tag, just in case your visitor's browser can't handle frames. It's possible to put more in the <noframes> section if desired – such as links to different sections of the site.



4 The frame fantastic

Once the frameset file has been saved, you just have to create the Web pages for each frame. Make sure their file names match those specified in the frameset file. Test everything out by using your Web browser to view the frames.



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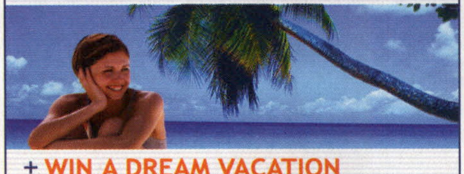

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In brief:
Task: Manage your browser Favourites effectively
Software I need: Internet Explorer or Netscape
Difficulty: Intermediate
Time I need: 20 minutes

The power users' guide to Favorites

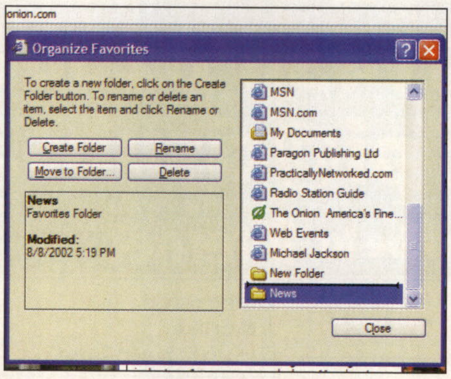
BRING SOME ORDER TO YOUR BOOKMARKS AND ACCESS YOUR REGULAR ONLINE HAUNTS EVEN QUICKER

THE CONCEPT OF storing a list of all your favourite site links on your PC is a great idea in theory, but in reality, it often becomes more of a burden than a time-saver.

However, successfully managing your Favorites can solve this. There are plenty of settings to tinker with and improve the overall organisation of your Favorites.

In just a few minutes you can transform a steaming, twisted mess of links into a well-ordered list by creating folders and putting the page names in alphabetical order.

Once you've sorted out your list, you can start applying some more advanced features such as backing them up or even storing them online to share with others.

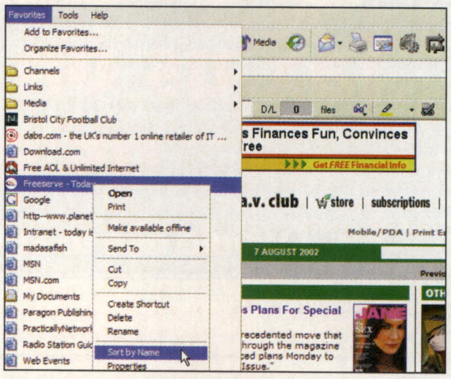

onion.com
Organize Favorites
Create Folder
Rename
Move to Folder...
Delete
MSN
MSN.com
My Documents
Paragon Publishing Ltd
PracticallyNetworked.com
Radio Station Guide
The Onion America's Fine...
Web Events
Michael Jackson
New Folder
News
Close

To create a new folder, click on the Create Folder button. To rename or delete an item, select the item and click Rename or Delete.

News
Favorites Folder
Modified:
8/8/2002 5:19 PM

1 Get organised

Launch Internet Explorer and choose 'Organize Favorites' from the 'Favorites' menu. Create folders (by clicking the 'Create Folder' button) to put your Favorites in. After making a new folder, drag a Favorite into it to store it there.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Organize Favorites...
Channels
Links
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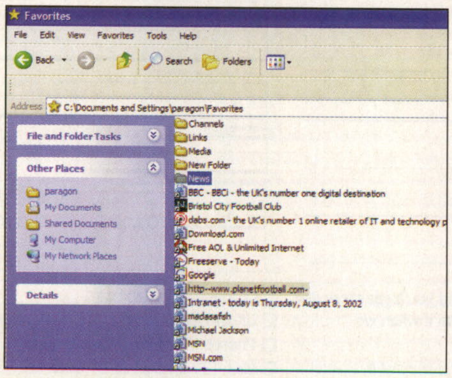
Web Events
Open
Print
Make available offline
Send To
Cut
Copy
Create Shortcut
Delete
Rename
Sort by Name
Properties
Media
s Finances Fun, Convinces
Get FREE Financial Info
a.v. club
store
subscriptions
Mobile/PDA | Print
7 AUGUST 2002
s Plans For Special

2 Sort alphabetically

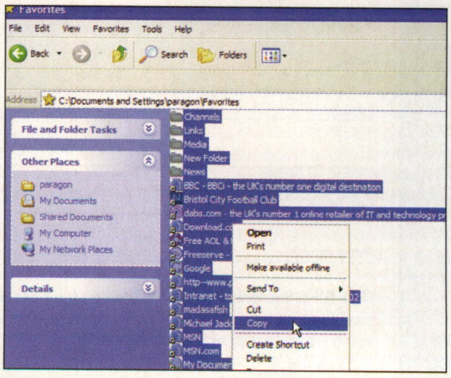
Even after organising your Favorites into folders, you will still have a list of links that are all mixed up. To rectify this, click the 'Favorites' menu and right-click on any of the items in the list. Arrange them alphabetically by selecting 'Sort by Name'.


Favorites
File
Edit
View
Favorites
Tools
Help
Back
Search
Folders
Address
File and Folder Tasks
Other Places
paragon
My Documents
Shared Documents
My Computer
My Network Places
Details
Channels
Links
Media
New Folder
News
BBC - BBCi - the UK's number one digital destination
Bristol City Football Club
dabs.com - the UK's number 1 online retailer of IT and technology p
Download.com
Free AOL & Unlimited Internet
Freeserve - Today
Google
http--www.planetfootball.com-
Intranet - today is Thursday, August 8, 2002
madasafish
Michael Jackson
MSN
MSN.com

C:\Documents and Settings\paragon\Favorites

3 Open Windows

Managing your Favorites in IE isn't the most intuitive way. You can access your Favorites using Windows Explorer, by opening the 'Windows' folder and going to 'Favorites'. You'll find that creating new folders is now much easier.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Open
Print
Make available offline
Send To
Cut
Copy
Create Shortcut
Delete

C:\Documents and Settings\paragon\Favorites

4 Back them up

Once you've whipped your Favorites into shape, it's a good idea to back them up. To back them up on the same hard drive, select all the Favorites that you want to keep then right-click on them and choose 'Copy'.

Welcome...

JUST AS A car needs a service after so many miles, so your Web browser needs a good overhaul after several heavy duty surfing sessions. As one of the best utilities in its field, CleanSpace lets you sweep up all the irrelevant little files that cling to your PC after repeated Web use, such as cache files, cookies, history logs and Windows temporary directories. We explain how to free up precious hard drive space using CleanSpace to clear this cyber muck from your machine on page 84-85.

Once you've used CleanSpace to get your browser purring again, why not treat yourself to a spot of file-sharing using the highly intuitive QtraxMax? It's being touted as one of the most fully-featured Gnutella drones on the go.

James Thornton, Staff Writer

What's inside...

78 Take control of Favorites
Show your bookmarks who's boss with our power users' guide

80 Personalise your browser
Give Mozilla and Netscape a more individual look by installing skins

82 File sharing with QtraxMax
Follow our guide to picking up files with this all-new peer2peer client

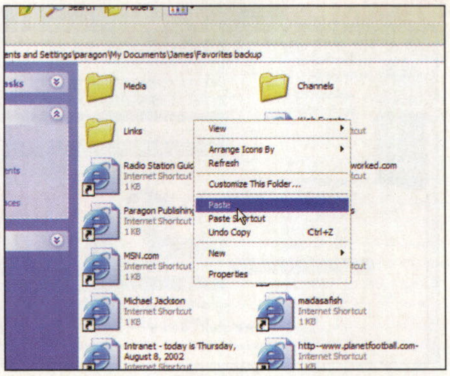
84 Keep your PC spick and span
Use the excellent CleanSpace 7.0 to remove browsing evidence

86 Save entire sites to your PC
Download Web sites in a trice with the multi-talented WebCopier3.2

88 Web browsing Q&A
Clive Parker helps iron out any bumps in your browsing

Web browsing
Browser themes
Netscape and Mozilla
Personalise your browser

Tweaking your browser interface is a nightmare with IE, but Mozilla and Netscape make it easy with their themes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Media
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madasafish
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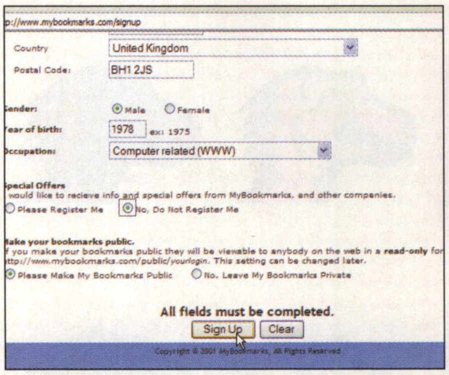
1 KB
Intranet - today is Thursday, August 8, 2002
http--www.planetfootball.com-
Internet Shortcut
View
Arrange Icons By
Refresh
Customize This Folder...
Paste
Paste Shortcut
Undo Copy Ctrl+Z
New
Properties

5 Create backup folder

Create another folder somewhere on your hard drive and paste the copied files from the original Favorites folder into this new one. Alternatively, copy the list to a floppy disk, or burn them onto a CD, as an extra form of protection.


p://www.mybookmarks.com/signup

Country: United Kingdom

Postal Code: BH1 2JS

ender: ● Male ○ Female

ear of birth: 1978 ex: 1975

ccupation: Computer related (WWW)

pecial Offers
would like to recieve info and special offers from MyBookmarks, and other companies.
○ Please Register Me ● No, Do Not Register Me

ake your bookmarks public.
f you make your bookmarks public they will be viewable to anybody on the web in a **read-only** for
ttp://www.mybookmarks.com/public/yourlogin. This setting can be changed later.
● Please Make My Bookmarks Public ○ No, Leave My Bookmarks Private

All fields must be completed.

Sign Up
Clear
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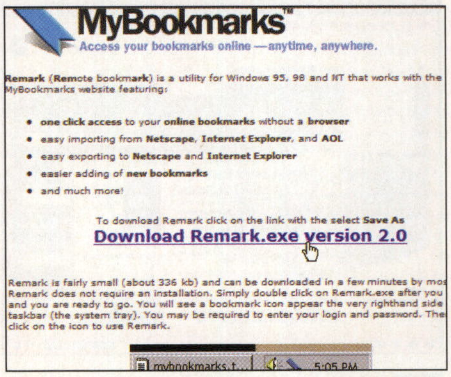
6 Access Favorites online

To back up your Favorites to the Web, head for **www.mybookmarks.com**. Click the 'Sign up' link from the home page and enter some details. Once you've entered these, click on the 'Sign up' button at the bottom of the page.


MyBookmarks™
Access your bookmarks online —anytime, anywhere.

Remark (**Remote** book**mark**) is a utility for Windows 95, 98 and NT that works with the MyBookmarks website featuring:

- **one click access** to your **online bookmarks** without a **browser**
- easy importing from **Netscape**, **Internet Explorer**, and **AOL**
- easy exporting to **Netscape** and **Internet Explorer**
- easier adding of **new bookmarks**
- and much more!

To download Remark click on the link with the select **Save As**

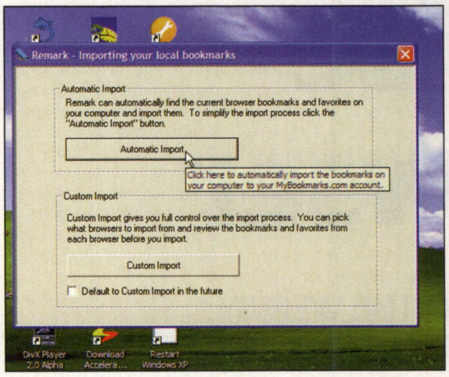
Download Remark.exe version 2.0

Remark is fairly small (about 336 kb) and can be downloaded in a few minutes by mos
Remark does not require an installation. Simply double click on Remark.exe after you
and you are ready to go. You will see a bookmark icon appear the very righthand side
taskbar (the system tray). You may be required to enter your login and password. The
click on the icon to use Remark.

mybookmarks.t...
5:05 PM

7 Download the software

You'll now be prompted to download a small piece of software, known as 'Remark', which allows you to synchronise the Favorites on your PC with the MyBookmarks online service. Download and install the small plug-in onto your machine.


Remark - Importing your local bookmarks

Automatic Import

Remark can automatically find the current browser bookmarks and favorites on your computer and import them. To simplify the import process click the "Automatic Import" button.

Automatic Import

Click here to automatically import the bookmarks on your computer to your MyBookmarks.com account.

Custom Import

Custom Import gives you full control over the import process. You can pick what browsers to import from and review the bookmarks and favorites from each browser before you import.

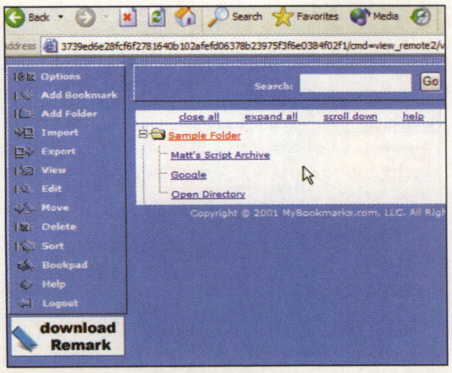
Custom Import

☐ Default to Custom Import in the future

DivX Player 2.0 Alpha
Download Accelera...
Restart Windows XP

8 Import automatically

Once you've got the Remark program running, you'll be taken to the 'Importing your local bookmarks' screen. To get the program to find your Favorites on your PC and import them, click the 'Automatic Import' button.


Back
Search
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Media
ddress 3739ed6e28fcf6f2781640b102afefd06378b23975f3f6e0384f02f1/cmd=view_remote2/v
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Sort
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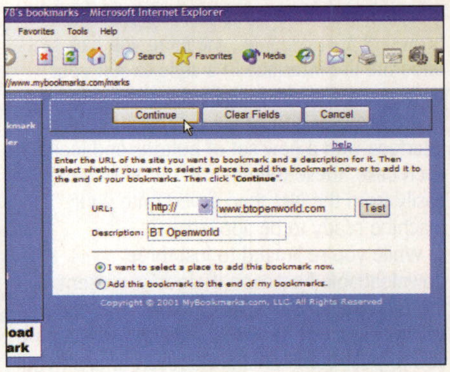
Go
close all
expand all
scroll down
help
Sample Folder
Matt's Script Archive
Google
Open Directory
Copyright © 2001 MyBookmarks.com, LLC. All Righ

9 View the bookmarks

After a short wait you will see a page with your list of Favorites. From here, you can access various different options for managing your Favorites online, including adding, deleting or moving bookmarks and folders.


78's bookmarks - Microsoft Internet Explorer
Favorites
Tools
Help
Search
Favorites
Media
/www.mybookmarks.com/marks
kmark
ler
Continue
Clear Fields
Cancel
help

Enter the URL of the site you want to bookmark and a description for it. Then select whether you want to select a place to add the bookmark now or to add it to the end of your bookmarks. Then click "**Continue**".

URL: http:// www.btopenworld.com

Test

Description: BT Openworld

● I want to select a place to add this bookmark now.

○ Add this bookmark to the end of my bookmarks.

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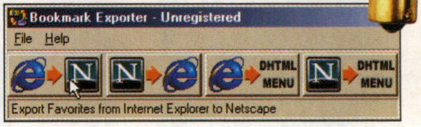
oad
ark

10 Add Favorites manually

To add a URL to your list of Favorites on MyBookmarks, click 'Add Bookmark'. Now enter the URL of the site that you wish to add, along with a description of what it is. Click 'Continue' and choose a folder to add the link to your Favorites.

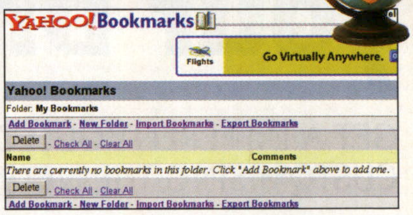
Power users' tip


Bookmark Exporter - Unregistered
File
Help
DHTML MENU
DHTML MENU
Export Favorites from Internet Explorer to Netscape

Convert your bookmarks

If you like to dabble with a variety of browsers when surfing the Web, you'll probably be frustrated by the fact that you can't use your Netscape bookmarks in IE and vice versa. Fear not, though, because as with most Net problems, there is a piece of software that'll help you get round it. Bookmark Exporter allows you to synchronise your list of Favorites by converting and copying them from one browser to another. The program is a cinch to use and can be downloaded free of charge from **www.klmsoft.com**.

Web resources


YAHOO! Bookmarks
Flights
Go Virtually Anywhere.
Yahoo! Bookmarks
Folder: My Bookmarks
Add Bookmark - New Folder - Import Bookmarks - Export Bookmarks
Delete
Check All - Clear All
Name
Comments

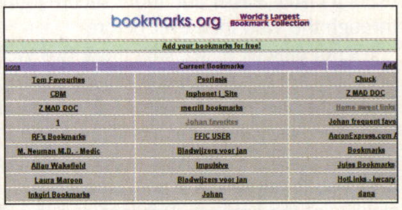
There are currently no bookmarks in this folder. Click "Add Bookmark" above to add one.

Delete
Check All - Clear All
Add Bookmark - New Folder - Import Bookmarks - Export Bookmarks

Yahoo! Bookmarks

http://bookmarks.yahoo.com

Another online bookmark storage facility, Yahoo! Bookmarks lets you easily import your IE or Netscape Favorites into the service, so you can access them from any computer. The site allows you to organise your bookmarks into folders, so you can quickly put your finger on them.


bookmarks.org
World's Largest Bookmark Collection
Add your bookmarks for free!

tions	Current Bookmarks	Add
Tom Favourites	Psoriasis	Chuck
CBM	Inphonet I_Site	Z MAD DOC
Z MAD DOC	merrill bookmarks	Home sweet link
1	Johan favorites	Johan frequent favo
RF's Bookmarks	FFIC USER	AaronExpress.com A
M. Neuman M.D. - Medic	Bladwijzers voor Jan	Bookmarks
Allan Wakefield	Impulsive	Jules Bookmarks
Laura Maroon	Bladwijzers voor Jan	HotLinks - lwcary
Inkgirl Bookmarks	Johan	dana

Bookmarks.org

www.bookmarks.org

Billed as the world's largest bookmark collection, this site is a great timewaster if anything else. You can submit your Favorites to share with the world, or simply while away an hour or two visiting the various sites recommended by the massive bank of users.

Web browsing

Browser themes

In brief:
Task: Change the appearance of your browser
Software I need: Netscape 6.2.3 and Mozilla 1.0
Difficulty: Beginner
Time I need: 25 minutes

Practical Internet IT'S ON THE CD

Personalise your browser

GET A DIFFERENT OUTLOOK TO THE WEB BY CUSTOMISING THE NETSCAPE AND MOZILLA BROWSERS

WHILE INTERNET EXPLORER may rule the roost as the world's most popular browser, its rivals are refusing to lay down and die.

Developers of both Netscape and Mozilla have been meticulously preparing for an assault on Microsoft's client, sparking yet another episode in the long-running 'browser wars'. Both Netscape 6.2 and the brand-spanking new Mozilla software have been designed to give users a faster, easier and more secure journey through the Web than ever before.

It's not difficult to see why these two Web browsers are capable of challenging Internet Explorer's seniority. The latest full version of Netscape Navigator, which is included on this month's cover CD, boasts a range of features designed to improve the performance and stability of the browser. This includes one-click searching from the address bar, an integrated download manager and an easy-access Instant Messenger. What's more, with Netscape 7 just around the corner, things are likely to get even better for users of the browser.

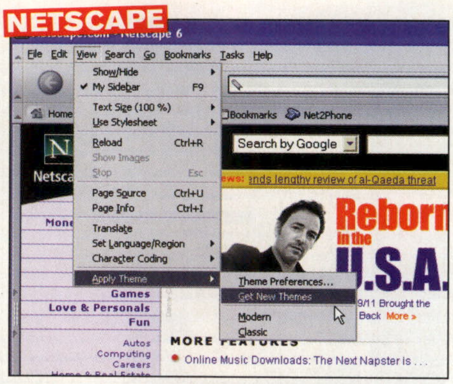
Potentially an even greater threat to Microsoft's dominance of the browser market, the long-awaited Mozilla application is already making a big impression with Net users. The software possesses many features not found in IE such as the ability to disable unrequested pop-up ads, and to display multiple Web pages in a single, tabbed interface.

Dream themes

One of the key benefits of both Netscape and Mozilla is that unlike Internet Explorer, the browsers are 'skinable', meaning you can decorate the interface in a style to suit your own tastes. This is done by applying a 'theme' to the browser containing a different colour interface with a new set of buttons and icons. In each case, these themes can be downloaded easily from the Net then saved onto your machine ready to be applied.

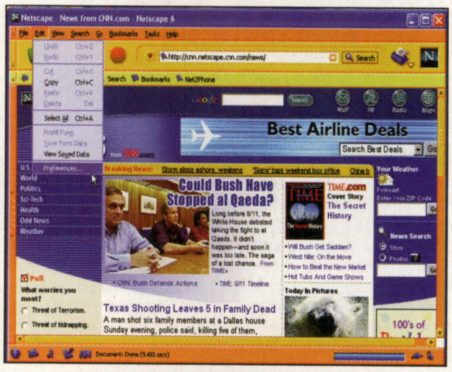
While you're limited to just three downloadable Netscape themes at present, there are lots available for Mozilla. There are several sites with these themes and most allow you to post comments about each one, so you can see what other users think about the skins.

Even if you're a die-hard Internet Explorer fan, it's worth trying out the customisation features of Netscape and Mozilla, as it means you never have to stare at a drab, grey browser interface again.


NETSCAPE
File Edit View Search Go Bookmarks Tasks Help
Show/Hide
My Sidebar F9
Text Size (100 %)
Use Stylesheet
Reload Ctrl+R
Show Images
Stop Esc
Page Source Ctrl+U
Page Info Ctrl+I
Translate
Set Language/Region
Character Coding
Apply Theme
Theme Preferences...
Get New Themes
Modern
Classic
Search by Google
Reborn in the U.S.A.
MORE FEATURES
Online Music Downloads: The Next Napster is . . .

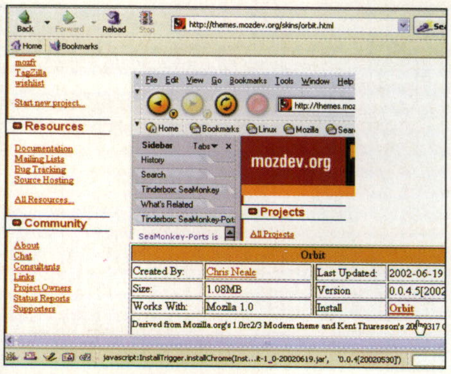
1 Launch the browser

Install and run Netscape from this month's CD – it will be loaded with the default 'Classic theme'. To get your hands on some new themes, choose 'Apply Theme' from the 'View' menu and click 'Get New Themes'.


Netscape - News from CNN.com - Netscape 6
File Edit View Search Go Bookmarks Tasks Help
Search
Best Airline Deals
Could Bush Have Stopped al Qaeda?
Texas Shooting Leaves 5 in Family Dead
Document: Done

4 Your new look

Now restart Netscape to apply the changes. When you load the program again, your new theme will replace the default skin. Further Netscape customisation features are available by selecting 'Preferences' from the 'Edit' menu.


Back
Forward
Reload
Stop
http://themes.mozdev.org/skins/orbit.html
Home
Bookmarks
File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Window Help
Resources
Community
Sidebar
mozdev.org
Projects

Orbit

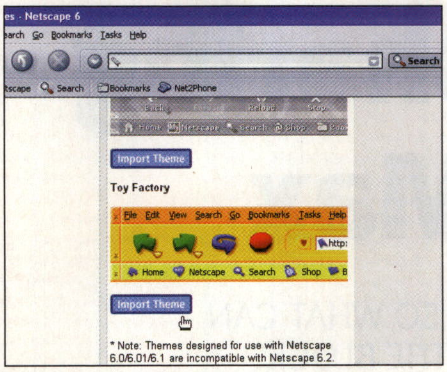
Created By:	Chris Neale	Last Updated:	2002-06-19
Size:	1.08MB	Version	0.0.4.5[2002
Works With:	Mozilla 1.0	Install	Orbit

Derived from Mozilla.org's 1.0rc2/3 Modern theme and Kent Thuresson's 20

javascript:InstallTrigger.installChrome(Inst...t-1_0-20020619.jar', '0.0.4[20020530]')

7 Choose a site

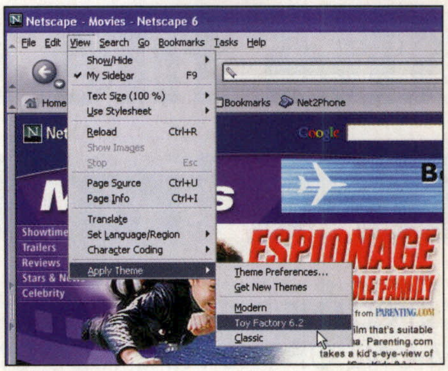
There are several sites that contain downloadable themes for Mozilla. We've chosen the Mozdev site at **http://themes.mozdev.org**. Scroll down the list of themes until you find one that takes your fancy and click on 'Install'.


es - Netscape 6
earch Go Bookmarks Tasks Help
Search
tscape Search Bookmarks Net2Phone
Import Theme
Toy Factory
File Edit View Search Go Bookmarks Tasks Help
Home Netscape Search Shop
Import Theme

* Note: Themes designed for use with Netscape 6.0/6.01/6.1 are incompatible with Netscape 6.2.

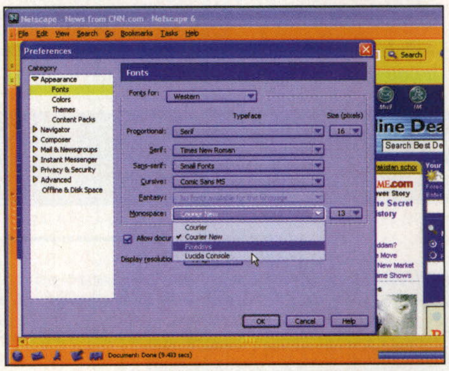
2 The Theme Park

You'll now be transported to the Netscape 'Theme Park' where you can scroll through a list of available skins. Choose a suitable scheme from the selection and click on the 'Import Theme' button to download it to your computer.


Netscape - Movies - Netscape 6
File Edit View Search Go Bookmarks Tasks Help
Show/Hide
My Sidebar F9
Text Size (100 %)
Use Stylesheet
Reload Ctrl+R
Show Images
Stop Esc
Page Source Ctrl+U
Page Info Ctrl+I
Translate
Set Language/Region
Character Coding
Apply Theme
Theme Preferences...
Get New Themes
Modern
Toy Factory 6.2
Classic
Bookmarks Net2Phone
ESPIONAGE
Showtimes
Trailers
Reviews
Stars & News
Celebrity

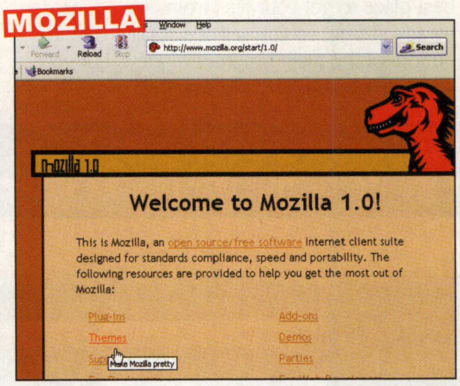
3 Theme selection

Once you've downloaded the new skin, click the 'View' menu and choose 'Apply Themes'. You should now see a list of three themes, which includes the two default skins, plus the one you've just downloaded. Click a theme to choose it.


Netscape - News from CNN.com - Netscape 6
File Edit View Search Go Bookmarks Tasks Help
Preferences
Category
Appearance
Fonts
Colors
Themes
Content Packs
Navigator
Composer
Mail & Newsgroups
Instant Messenger
Privacy & Security
Advanced
Offline & Disk Space
Fonts
Fonts for: Western
Typeface
Size (pixels)
Proportional: Serif 16
Serif: Times New Roman
Sans-serif: Small Fonts
Cursive: Comic Sans MS
Fantasy:
Monospace: Courier New 13
Courier
Courier New
Lucida Console
Allow documents
Display resolution
OK
Cancel
Help
Document: Done (9.403 secs)

5 Further cosmetic surgery

Here you can apply even more changes by clicking on the 'Appearance' menu in the Category panel. You can now tweak the font, size and colour of the text used in Netscape, to give the browser a truly personal touch.

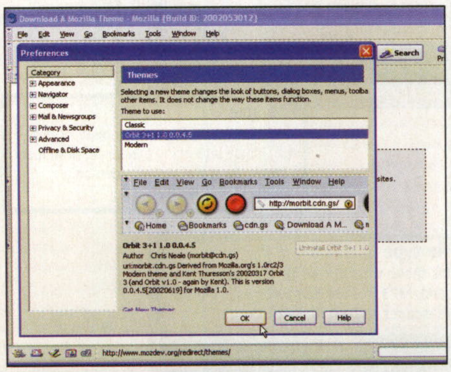

MOZILLA
Window Help
Forward Reload Stop
http://www.mozilla.org/start/1.0/
Search
Bookmarks
mozilla 1.0
Plug-ins
Themes
Add-ons
Demos
Parties
Make Mozilla pretty

Welcome to Mozilla 1.0!

This is Mozilla, an open source/free software Internet client suite designed for standards compliance, speed and portability. The following resources are provided to help you get the most out of Mozilla:

6 Customise Mozilla

After installing Mozilla from this month's disc, double-click the browser's icon to launch the program. Once started, you will be taken to the Mozilla welcome page where you can find out more about the browser. For now, click 'Themes'.


Download A Mozilla Theme - Mozilla {Build ID: 2002053012}
File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Window Help
Preferences
Search
Category
Appearance
Navigator
Composer
Mail & Newsgroups
Privacy & Security
Advanced
Offline & Disk Space
Themes
Home Bookmarks cdn.gs Download A M...
http://morbit.cdn.gs/
Uninstall Orbit 3+1 1.0
Get New Themes
OK
Cancel
Help
http://www.mozdev.org/redirect/themes/

Selecting a new theme changes the look of buttons, dialog boxes, menus, toolba other items. It does not change the way these items function.

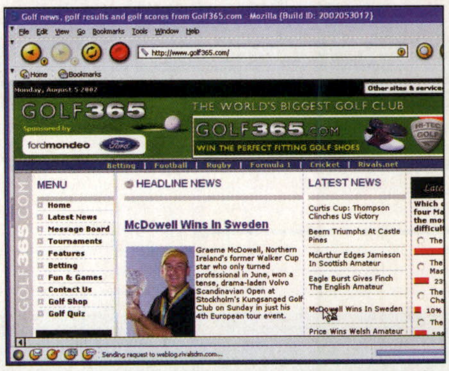
Theme to use:

Classic
Orbit 3+1 1.0 0.0.4.5
Modern

Orbit 3+1 1.0 0.0.4.5
Author Chris Neale (morbit@cdn.gs)
uri:morbit.cdn.gs Derived from Mozilla.org's 1.0rc2/3 Modern theme and Kent Thuresson's 20020317 Orbit 3 (and Orbit v1.0 - again by Kent). This is version 0.0.4.5[20020619] for Mozilla 1.0.

8 Apply the theme

After downloading the theme, you're ready to apply it to the interface. Choose 'Apply Theme' from the 'View' menu and select 'Theme Preferences'. Highlight the theme you've just downloaded then click 'OK' to apply the changes.


Golf news, golf results and golf scores from Golf365.com Mozilla (Build ID: 2002053012)
File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Window Help
http://www.golf365.com/
Home Bookmarks
Monday, August 5 2002
Other sites & services
GOLF365
THE WORLD'S BIGGEST GOLF CLUB
Sponsored by
fordmondeo
GOLF365.COM
WIN THE PERFECT FITTING GOLF SHOES
Betting | Football | Rugby | Formula 1 | Cricket | Rivals.net
MENU
Home
Latest News
Message Board
Tournaments
Features
Betting
Fun & Games
Contact Us
Golf Shop
Golf Quiz
HEADLINE NEWS
LATEST NEWS
Curtis Cup: Thompson Clinches US Victory
Beem Triumphs At Castle Pines
McArthur Edges Jamieson In Scottish Amateur
Eagle Burst Gives Finch The English Amateur
McDowell Wins In Sweden
Price Wins Welsh Amateur
Sending request to weblog.rivalsdm.com...

McDowell Wins In Sweden

Graeme McDowell, Northern Ireland's former Walker Cup star who only turned professional in June, won a tense, drama-laden Volvo Scandinavian Open at Stockholm's Kungsanged Golf Club on Sunday in just his 4th European tour event.

9 A change of scene

Now restart the Mozilla browser to bring the changes into effect. You'll now be treated to a brand-spanking new Mozilla interface. To revert back to previous themes, simply go to the 'View' menu and choose 'Apply Themes'.

Jargon buster

Skins

Sometimes known as 'themes' this refers to images that you can apply to the background area of a browser to decorate the grey areas surrounding the interface. Browser skins can be downloaded free of charge from the Internet and applied instantly to your Web browser.

Pop-up ad

An online advert that is displayed in a new browser window when visiting a site on the Web. These are usually unrequested and have developed a reputation as being one of the most troublesome aspects of browsing the Web.

Power users' tip

Mozilla icons

Because of its open source nature, there are all sorts of things you can do to tweak the appearance of the Mozilla browser. One of the most innovative is the ability to apply new icons for each Mozilla component. Full sets of icons are available to download from the Deskmod Mozilla icons section at **www.deskmod.com**, where you can even make the browser look like a dead ringer for Internet Explorer by grabbing some IE icons. If you're feeling adventurous, you might want to have a stab at creating your own Mozilla icons. A guide for this can be found at **http://grayrest.com/moz/resources/tutorials/iconstutorial.shtml**.

Power users' tip

Make a splash

Another great way to customise your Mozilla browser is by changing the splash screen that appears when you start the program. Changing this picture is simple, as the splash screen is saved as a Windows '.bmp' file. To use another image, save it as 'mozilla.bmp' and place it in the same folder as 'mozilla.exe'. What's more, you can use an image of any size. Changing the splash screen in Macintosh or Linux versions of the browser is slightly more complex, however, and currently requires recompiling Mozilla with the new splash screen included.

In brief:
Task: Get to know QtraxMax
Software I need: QtraxMax
Difficulty: It's all pretty easy
Time I need: 30 minutes

Get into the file sharing spirit with QtraxMax

THE WORLD OF FILE SHARING IS CHANGING ALL THE TIME, SO WHAT CAN YOU LOOK FORWARD TO FROM ONE OF THE NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK?

FILE SHARING IS now a global phenomenon and there are boatloads of programs that let you share your music, picture and video files with other people. What's more, there are thousands of independent artists getting their works distributed and heard over the Internet thanks to this home-grown industry. However, an upcoming US law called the Consumer Broadband and Digital Television Promotion Act may looks set to stamp this out. The time of file sharing may soon be coming to an end, so get in there quick before it all goes up in smoke.

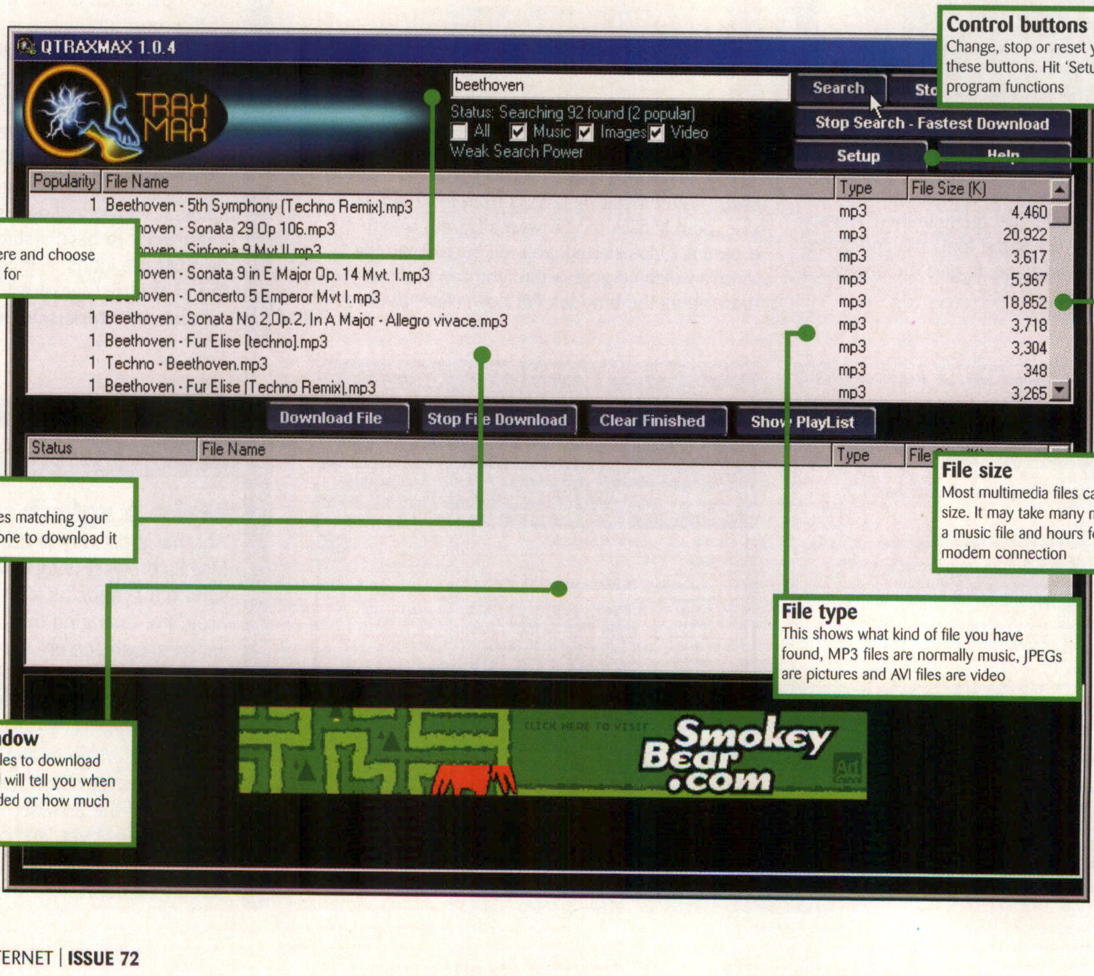
One of the best file sharing programs currently on the go is QtraxMax. This little beauty lets you maximise your bandwidth by letting you pause downloads while it finds the best place to get your files from. It is sponsored by advertising, so you will see small ads at the bottom of the main program window, but you won't be bothered by any spyware.

You'll always know how smooth the file-sharing process will be, as QtraxMax keeps you informed of the level of searching power at its disposal. Of course, a lot of this relates to your connection speed.

QtraxMax is the newest and best way to go about your downloading needs. However, bear in mind that although these programs are widely available, you are still committing a crime if you download or upload copyrighted works.

The guided tour

Before you go wading in, check out our guide to the QtraxMax interface



beethoven

Status: Searching 92 found (2 popular)
☐ All ☑ Music ☑ Images ☑ Video
Weak Search Power

Popularity	File Name	Type	File Size (K)
1	Beethoven - 5th Symphony (Techno Remix).mp3	mp3	4,460
	oven - Sonata 29 Op 106.mp3	mp3	20,922
	oven - Sinfonia 9 Mvt II.mp3	mp3	3,617
	hoven - Sonata 9 in E Major Op. 14 Mvt. I.mp3	mp3	5,967
	hoven - Concerto 5 Emperor Mvt I.mp3	mp3	18,852
1	Beethoven - Sonata No 2,Op.2, In A Major - Allegro vivace.mp3	mp3	3,718
1	Beethoven - Fur Elise [techno].mp3	mp3	3,304
1	Techno - Beethoven.mp3	mp3	348
1	Beethoven - Fur Elise (Techno Remix).mp3	mp3	3,265

Status	File Name	Type	File

Control buttons
Change, stop or reset your searches with these buttons. Hit 'Setup' to adjust the program functions

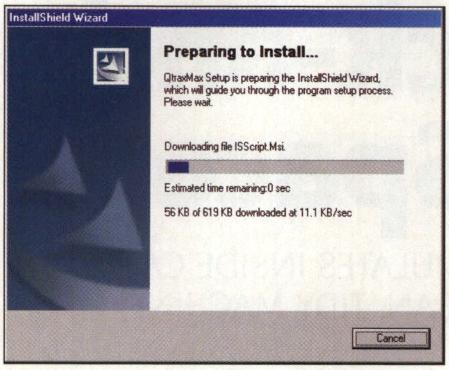
Search box
Enter your search text here and choose what kind of files to look for

Search results
Here you'll find all the files matching your search. Double-click on one to download it

File size
Most multimedia files can be quite large in size. It may take many minutes to download a music file and hours for video on a modem connection

File type
This shows what kind of file you have found, MP3 files are normally music, JPEGs are pictures and AVI files are video

The download window
Once you choose what files to download they will appear here and will tell you when they have been downloaded or how much has been saved



InstallShield Wizard

Preparing to Install...

QtraxMax Setup is preparing the InstallShield Wizard, which will guide you through the program setup process. Please wait.

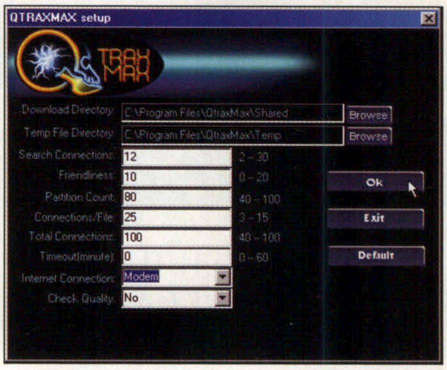
Downloading file ISScript.Msi.

Estimated time remaining:0 sec

56 KB of 619 KB downloaded at 11.1 KB/sec

1 Install and download

When you install QtraxMax you'll need to be connected to the Internet to get the latest version of the download engine from the developers. This is only around 600k so it will only take a couple of minutes on a modem.

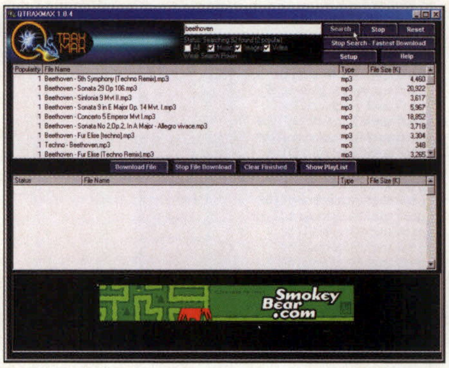


QTRAXMAX setup

Download Directory:	C:\Program Files\QtraxMax\Shared	
Temp File Directory:	C:\Program Files\QtraxMax\Temp	
Search Connections:	12	2 – 30
Friendliness:	10	0 – 20
Partition Count:	80	40 – 100
Connections/File:	25	3 – 15
Total Connections:	100	40 – 100
Timeout(minute):	0	0 – 60
Internet Connection:	Modem	
Check Quality:	No	

2 Ensure the right setup

Once installed, you can launch QtraxMax from the desktop shortcut. To configure the program, click on 'Setup' from the buttons in the top-right corner. The main thing to check is that you have chosen the right connection speed.



QTRAXMAX 1.0.4

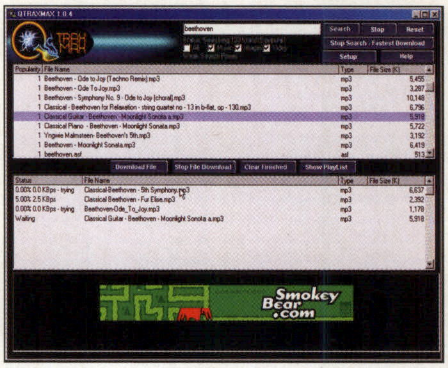
beethoven

Popularity	File Name	Type	File Size (K)
1	Beethoven - 5th Symphony (Techno Remix).mp3	mp3	4,460
1	Beethoven - Sonata 29 Op 106.mp3	mp3	20,922
1	Beethoven - Sinfonia 9 Mvt II.mp3	mp3	3,617
1	Beethoven - Sonata 9 in E Major Op. 14 Mvt. I.mp3	mp3	5,967
1	Beethoven - Concerto 5 Emperor Mvt I.mp3	mp3	18,852
1	Beethoven - Sonata No 2,Op.2, In A Major - Allegro vivace.mp3	mp3	3,718
1	Beethoven - Fur Elise (techno).mp3	mp3	3,304
1	Techno - Beethoven.mp3	mp3	348
1	Beethoven - Fur Elise (Techno Remix).mp3	mp3	3,265

Status	File Name	Type	File Size (K)

3 Search for a file

Now type in the name of an artist or work you wish to search for and press the 'Search' button. You can limit the format you are searching for by unticking or ticking the 'Music', 'Images' or 'Video' boxes underneath the search box.



QTRAXMAX 1.0.4

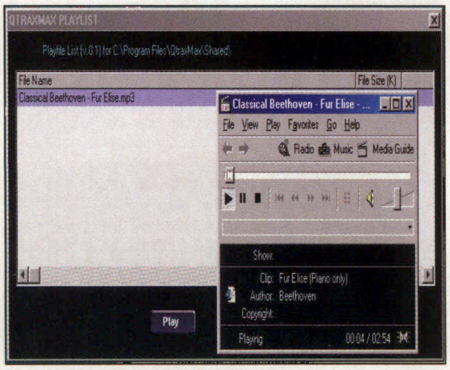
beethoven

Popularity	File Name	Type	File Size (K)
1	Beethoven - Ode to Joy (Techno Remix).mp3	mp3	5,455
1	Beethoven - Ode To Joy.mp3	mp3	3,287
1	Beethoven - Symphony No. 9 - Ode to Joy (choral).mp3	mp3	10,148
1	Classical - Beethoven for Relaxation - string quartet no - 13 in b-flat, op - 130.mp3	mp3	6,796
1	Classical Guitar - Beethoven - Moonlight Sonata a.mp3	mp3	5,918
1	Classical Piano - Beethoven - Moonlight Sonata.mp3	mp3	5,722
1	Yngwie Malmsteen- Beethoven's 5th.mp3	mp3	3,192
1	Beethoven - Moonlight Sonata.mp3	mp3	6,419
1	beethoven.asf	asf	513

Status	File Name	Type	File Size (K)
0.00% 0.0 KBps - trying	Classical-Beethoven - 5th Symphony.mp3	mp3	6,637
5.00% 2.5 KBps	Classical Beethoven - Fur Elise.mp3	mp3	2,392
0.00% 0.0 KBps - trying	Beethoven-Ode_To_Joy.mp3	mp3	1,178
Waiting	Classical Guitar - Beethoven - Moonlight Sonota a.mp3	mp3	5,918

4 Download your file

Double-click on the file you want to move to the download section. You can add as many files to the download list as you want. QtraxMax will find the fastest way to download each one and will get multiple files at once – bandwidth permitting.



QTRAXMAX PLAYLIST

Playfile List (v.0.1) for C:\Program Files\QtraxMax\Shared\

File Name	File Size (K)
Classical Beethoven - Fur Elise.mp3	

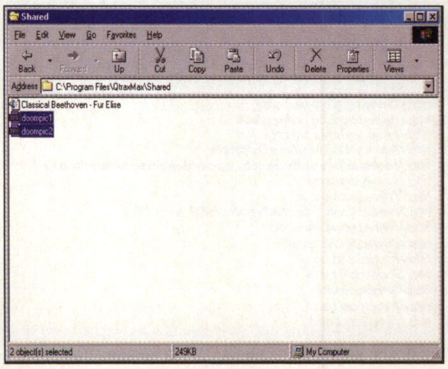
Classical Beethoven - Fur Elise - ...

Clip: Fur Elise (Piano only)
Author: Beethoven
Copyright:

Playing 00:04 / 02:54

5 Play your music

To play your music file, just click on the 'Show Playlist' button and choose from one of the songs or movies you have downloaded. Now choose the track to play and QtraxMax will launch your standard music file player.



Shared

Address: C:\Program Files\QtraxMax\Shared

Classical Beethoven - Fur Elise
doompic1
doompic2

2 object(s) selected | 249KB | My Computer

6 Fine-tune QtraxMax

If you want to share your music files with other users then you'll need to copy them to the shared folder where the program was installed. Now if users search for your songs they will be able to download them from your PC

Jargon buster

MP3

This is a file extension indicating a sound file saved in the Motion Picture 3 format. This has long been a great way of compressing a sound file without losing too much of the quality. Compressing it means that it takes less time to download or copy.

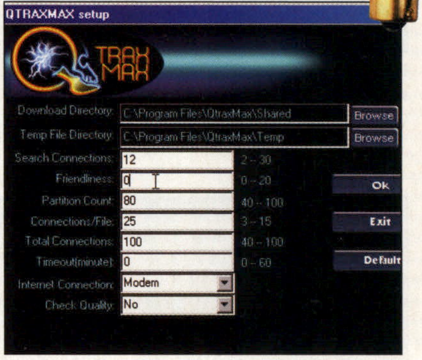
Partition

When downloading a file, QTRAXMAX breaks it down into many partitions or chunks of equal size in order to download the chunks from many sources rather than use the one. This helps to greatly reduce the download time and prevents losing files when connections are broken.

Shared folder

Any time you download a file in QtraxMax, it will be placed into this folder. This is set as the folder QtraxMax uses to store your files to share with other users, so if you want to give people access to files, you need to shove 'em in here.

Power users' tip



QTRAXMAX setup

Download Directory:	C:\Program Files\QtraxMax\Shared	
Temp File Directory:	C:\Program Files\QtraxMax\Temp	
Search Connections:	12	2 – 30
Friendliness:	0	0 – 20
Partition Count:	80	40 – 100
Connections/File:	25	3 – 15
Total Connections:	100	40 – 100
Timeout(minute):	0	0 – 60
Internet Connection:	Modem	
Check Quality:	No	

USE THE SETUP box to choose how many people can download files from your computer by changing the 'friendliness' rating. The lower the number the fewer users can access your machine, giving you more bandwidth to download files from other people. The Search Connections option shows how many links to other PCs you can make; Partition Count is how many chunks the file you are downloading can be broken into; and Timeout is how long the computer will wait before deciding a connection is broken, with 0 being never.

Web browsing

Tidy your PC

In brief:
Task: Give your PC the definitive spring clean
Software I need: Clean Space
Difficulty: Intermediate
Time I need: Half an hour

Practical Internet IT'S ON THE CD

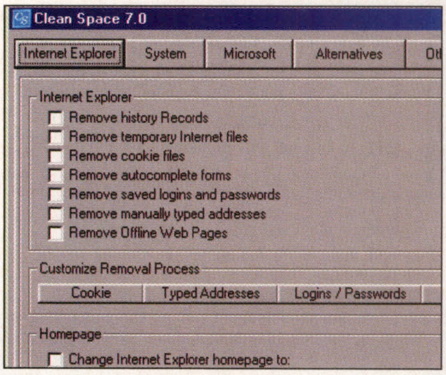
Keep your PC spick-and-span with Clean Space

YOUR PC MAY LOOK CLEAN, BUT THE RUBBISH THAT ACCUMULATES INSIDE CAN HARM ITS PERFORMANCE. HERE'S HOW TO GET A CLEAN, LEAN, TIDY MACHINE

AT JUST TWO and a half megabytes to install, Clean Space doesn't eat up too much of your precious disk space, but promises to free up a whole lot more. This is an all-in-one approach to cleaning your PC. From getting rid of your Internet History to clearing out the Clipboard and tidying up your Office folders, it will dust and polish your drive, leaving your PC nice and ordered and keeping your browsing and document history your own business.

This can be done as an automated process or you can browse through the menu tree, pruning any areas of concern. Clean Space can be password-protected to stop accidental or unwanted cleaning and it goes further than many products by offering to clean up anything left behind by download programs like KaZaA and Morpheus, image browsers including ACDSee and a host of Instant Messenger tools.

Clean Space also comes with a restore facility should you make a pig's ear of your spring-cleaning. It is this kind of detail and the well-presented program structure that makes this ideal for both novice and veteran PC user.

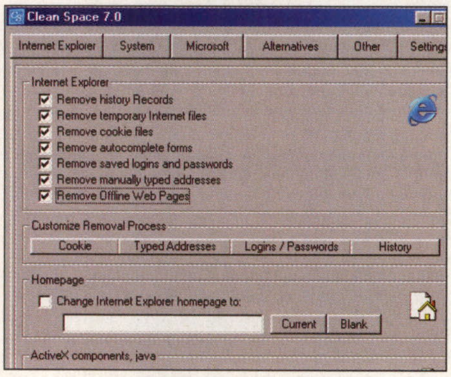

Clean Space 7.0
Internet Explorer
System
Microsoft
Alternatives
Ot
Customize Removal Process
Cookie
Typed Addresses
Logins / Passwords

Internet Explorer
☐ Remove history Records
☐ Remove temporary Internet files
☐ Remove cookie files
☐ Remove autocomplete forms
☐ Remove saved logins and passwords
☐ Remove manually typed addresses
☐ Remove Offline Web Pages

Homepage
☐ Change Internet Explorer homepage to:

1 The interface

Clean Space has six main tabs, each relating to a specific program, a section of Windows or a range of tools. These tabs have a range of options, with extra information displayed across each page. The first of these is for Internet Explorer.

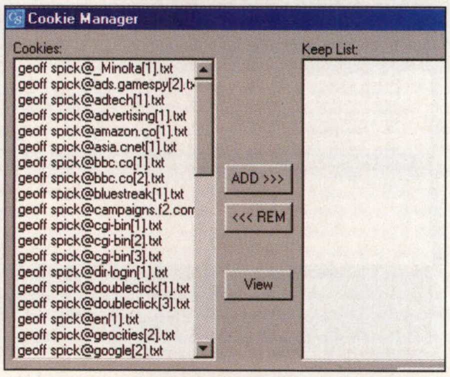

Clean Space 7.0
Internet Explorer
System
Microsoft
Alternatives
Other
Setting
Customize Removal Process
Cookie
Typed Addresses
Logins / Passwords
History
Current
Blank
ActiveX components, java

Internet Explorer
☑ Remove history Records
☑ Remove temporary Internet files
☑ Remove cookie files
☑ Remove autocomplete forms
☑ Remove saved logins and passwords
☑ Remove manually typed addresses
☑ Remove Offline Web Pages

Homepage
☐ Change Internet Explorer homepage to:

2 IE options

Tick any of these boxes to tidy up IE. Removing saved logins and passwords is very useful if you have typed one in incorrectly and the computer has memorised it, as well as for preventing others knowing what you've been up to.

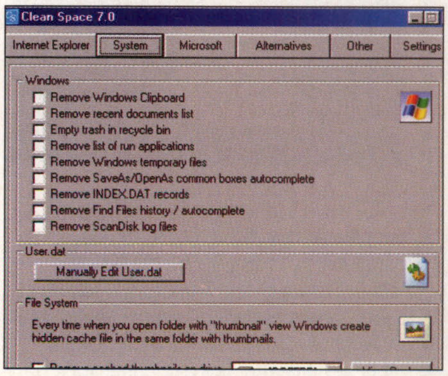

Cookie Manager
ADD >>>
<<< REM
View

Cookies:
geoff spick@_Minolta[1].txt
geoff spick@ads.gamespy[2].t
geoff spick@adtech[1].txt
geoff spick@advertising[1].txt
geoff spick@amazon.co[1].txt
geoff spick@asia.cnet[1].txt
geoff spick@bbc.co[1].txt
geoff spick@bbc.co[2].txt
geoff spick@bluestreak[1].txt
geoff spick@campaigns.f2.com
geoff spick@cgi-bin[1].txt
geoff spick@cgi-bin[2].txt
geoff spick@cgi-bin[3].txt
geoff spick@dir-login[1].txt
geoff spick@doubleclick[1].txt
geoff spick@doubleclick[3].txt
geoff spick@en[1].txt
geoff spick@geocities[2].txt
geoff spick@google[2].txt

Keep List:

3 Password purge

The 'Customize Removal Process' section lets you access (and if you like, delete) information stored by IE. Cookies are an endless stream of sometimes useful files, while you can see all your IE passwords listed in the Login section.


Clean Space 7.0
Internet Explorer
System
Microsoft
Alternatives
Other
Settings
Manually Edit User.dat

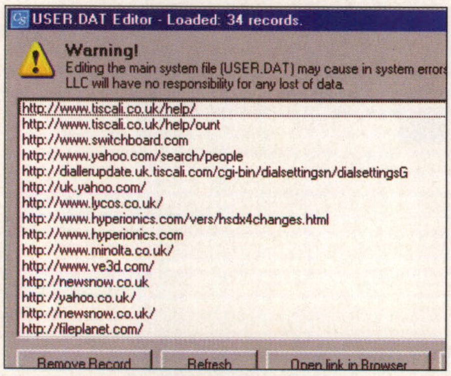
Windows
☐ Remove Windows Clipboard
☐ Remove recent documents list
☐ Empty trash in recycle bin
☐ Remove list of run applications
☐ Remove Windows temporary files
☐ Remove SaveAs/OpenAs common boxes autocomplete
☐ Remove INDEX.DAT records
☐ Remove Find Files history / autocomplete
☐ Remove ScanDisk log files

User.dat

File System
Every time when you open folder with "thumbnail" view Windows create hidden cache file in the same folder with thumbnails.

4 System settings

The System tab lists all temporary storage related to Windows including clipboard contents, temporary files and hidden thumbnails. Best of all, you can get rid of the information that Microsoft likes to keep about its users.

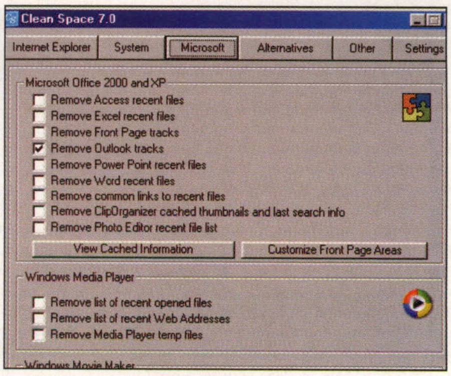

USER.DAT Editor - Loaded: 34 records.
Remove Record
Refresh
Open link in Browser

Warning!
Editing the main system file (USER.DAT) may cause in system error
LLC will have no responsibility for any lost of data.

```
http://www.tiscali.co.uk/help/
http://www.tiscali.co.uk/help/ount
http://www.switchboard.com
http://www.yahoo.com/search/people
http://diallerupdate.uk.tiscali.com/cgi-bin/dialsettingsn/dialsettingsG
http://uk.yahoo.com/
http://www.lycos.co.uk/
http://www.hyperionics.com/vers/hsdx4changes.html
http://www.hyperionics.com
http://www.minolta.co.uk/
http://www.ve3d.com/
http://newsnow.co.uk
http://yahoo.co.uk/
http://newsnow.co.uk/
http://fileplanet.com/
```

5 No user data

For example, editing the 'user.dat' file lets you remove some entries in your user file. These are usually specific Web site addresses that you might not want others to see – job sites at work might not go down terribly well, for example.

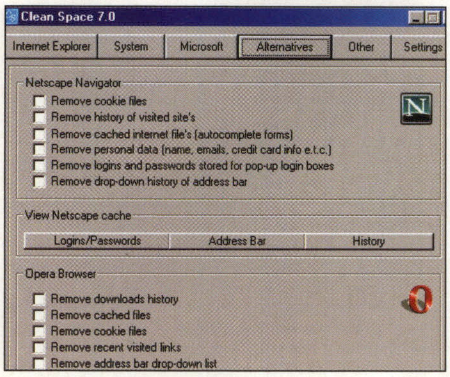

Clean Space 7.0
Internet Explorer
System
Microsoft
Alternatives
Other
Settings
View Cached Information
Customize Front Page Areas
Windows Movie Maker

Microsoft Office 2000 and XP
☐ Remove Access recent files
☐ Remove Excel recent files
☐ Remove Front Page tracks
☑ Remove Outlook tracks
☐ Remove Power Point recent files
☐ Remove Word recent files
☐ Remove common links to recent files
☐ Remove ClipOrganizer cached thumbnails and last search info
☐ Remove Photo Editor recent file list

Windows Media Player
☐ Remove list of recent opened files
☐ Remove list of recent Web Addresses
☐ Remove Media Player temp files

6 Microsoft cleaning

The 'Microsoft' section keeps those MS apps in trim. With Office getting a section on its own, this is the place to remove the list of recently used files you see when you use the File menu on any Windows application.


Clean Space 7.0
Internet Explorer
System
Microsoft
Alternatives
Other
Settings
Logins/Passwords
Address Bar
History

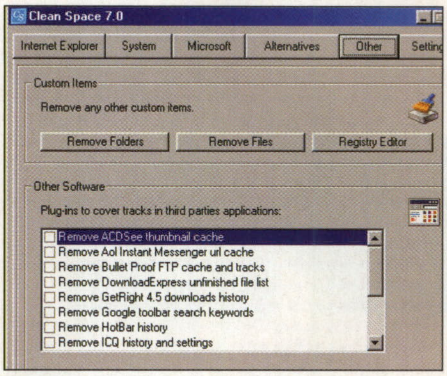
Netscape Navigator
☐ Remove cookie files
☐ Remove history of visited site's
☐ Remove cached internet file's (autocomplete forms)
☐ Remove personal data (name, emails, credit card info e.t.c.)
☐ Remove logins and passwords stored for pop-up login boxes
☐ Remove drop-down history of address bar

View Netscape cache

Opera Browser
☐ Remove downloads history
☐ Remove cached files
☐ Remove cookie files
☐ Remove recent visited links
☐ Remove address bar drop-down list

7 Browser fixes

If you use a different browser to Internet Explorer, such as Netscape Navigator or Opera, the 'Alternatives' tab will help clean it up. This includes information such as cookies, cached files and visited links.

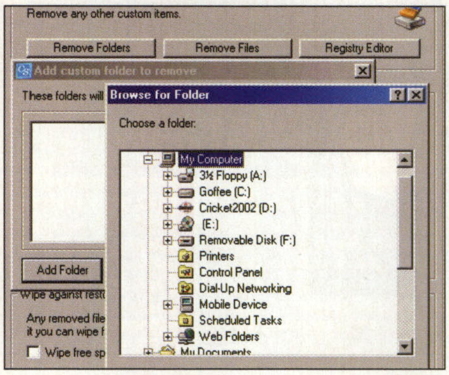

Clean Space 7.0
Internet Explorer
System
Microsoft
Alternatives
Other
Settin
Remove Folders
Remove Files
Registry Editor

Custom Items
Remove any other custom items.

Other Software
Plug-ins to cover tracks in third parties applications:
☐ Remove ACDSee thumbnail cache
☐ Remove Aol Instant Messenger url cache
☐ Remove Bullet Proof FTP cache and tracks
☐ Remove DownloadExpress unfinished file list
☐ Remove GetRight 4.5 downloads history
☐ Remove Google toolbar search keywords
☐ Remove HotBar history
☐ Remove ICQ history and settings

8 And the rest...

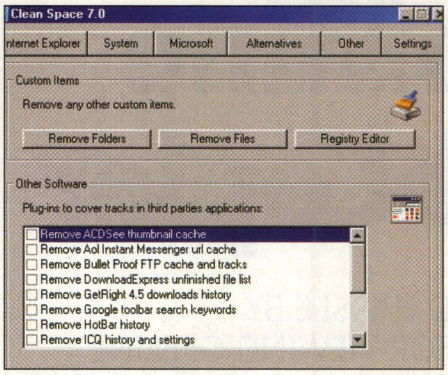
The 'Other' tab is for the rest of the third party programs. The main section in the middle lists a host of popular utilities that all create information you might not want anyone else to get their hands on.


Remove Folders
Remove Files
Registry Editor
Add custom folder to remove
Browse for Folder
Add Folder
My Computer
3½ Floppy (A:)
Goffee (C:)
Cricket2002 (D:)
(E:)
Removable Disk (F:)
Printers
Control Panel
Dial-Up Networking
Mobile Device
Scheduled Tasks
Web Folders
My Documents

Remove any other custom items.
These folders will
Choose a folder:
Wipe against rest
Any removed file
it you can wipe f
☐ Wipe free sp

9 The direct route

If you know some badly behaved temporary folders or old backup files that just won't die, you can have them terminated by using the direct option – clicking on the 'Remove Folders' or 'Remove Files' button.

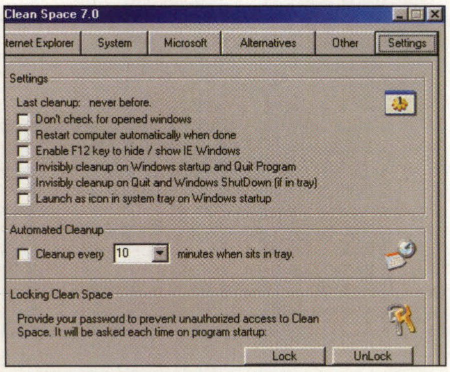

Clean Space 7.0
nternet Explorer
System
Microsoft
Alternatives
Other
Settings
Remove Folders
Remove Files
Registry Editor

Custom Items
Remove any other custom items.

Other Software
Plug-ins to cover tracks in third parties applications:
☐ Remove ACDSee thumbnail cache
☐ Remove Aol Instant Messenger url cache
☐ Remove Bullet Proof FTP cache and tracks
☐ Remove DownloadExpress unfinished file list
☐ Remove GetRight 4.5 downloads history
☐ Remove Google toolbar search keywords
☐ Remove HotBar history
☐ Remove ICQ history and settings

10 Clean it up

Having browsed all the sections, hit the 'Start Cleanup' button at the bottom to solve your problems. If you want to permanently erase the files that caused them, you need to tick the 'Wipe against restore' box.


Clean Space 7.0
ternet Explorer
System
Microsoft
Alternatives
Other
Settings
Lock
UnLock

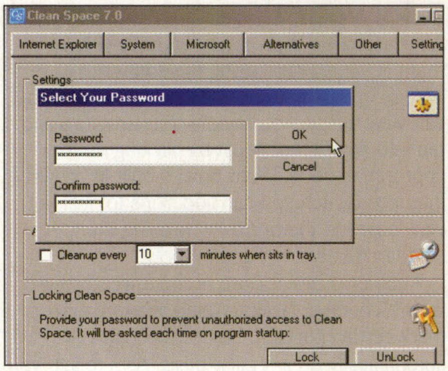
Settings
Last cleanup: never before.
☐ Don't check for opened windows
☐ Restart computer automatically when done
☐ Enable F12 key to hide / show IE Windows
☐ Invisibly cleanup on Windows startup and Quit Program
☐ Invisibly cleanup on Quit and Windows ShutDown (if in tray)
☐ Launch as icon in system tray on Windows startup

Automated Cleanup
☐ Cleanup every 10 minutes when sits in tray.

Locking Clean Space
Provide your password to prevent unauthorized access to Clean Space. It will be asked each time on program startup.

11 Advanced options

Clean Space has a host of options you can use to make the program more or less automated including auto-launching and working invisibly. These are all in the 'Settings' menu, where you can also get help and support.


Clean Space 7.0
Internet Explorer
System
Microsoft
Alternatives
Other
Setting
Select Your Password
OK
Cancel
Lock
UnLock

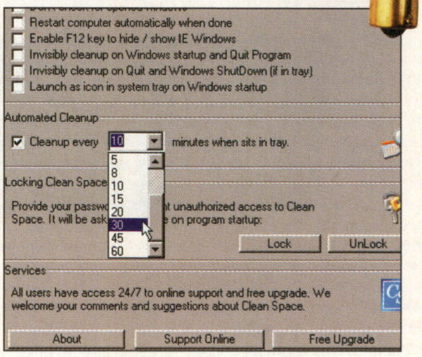
Settings
Password: **********
Confirm password: **********
☐ Cleanup every 10 minutes when sits in tray.

Locking Clean Space
Provide your password to prevent unauthorized access to Clean Space. It will be asked each time on program startup.

12 Keep it safe

Clean Space can be protected with a password to prevent it being misused. The first time you hit the 'Lock' button you will need to enter your password twice to seal the program, and then use 'Unlock' to reactivate it.

Power users' tip


5
8
10
15
20
30
45
60
Lock
UnLock
About
Support Online
Free Upgrade

☐ Restart computer automatically when done
☐ Enable F12 key to hide / show IE Windows
☐ Invisibly cleanup on Windows startup and Quit Program
☐ Invisibly cleanup on Quit and Windows ShutDown (if in tray)
☐ Launch as icon in system tray on Windows startup

Automated Cleanup
☑ Cleanup every 10 minutes when sits in tray.

Locking Clean Space
Provide your passw… t unauthorized access to Clean Space. It will be ask… e on program startup:

Services
All users have access 24/7 to online support and free upgrade. We welcome your comments and suggestions about Clean Space.

Automatic clean up

Save yourself the hassle of running the program manually with the 'Automated Cleanup' feature. Just tick all the options you want cleaned up on a regular basis and then choose a time period to launch Clean Space so it can do its house-keeping. If you have a lot of people using one PC, this can be very useful, but if it's just you, it's still good to let Clean Space get on with its job every few hours or so. You can type in any number of minutes you want between cleans, so there's no need to just settle for on the hour.

Jargon buster

Cookies

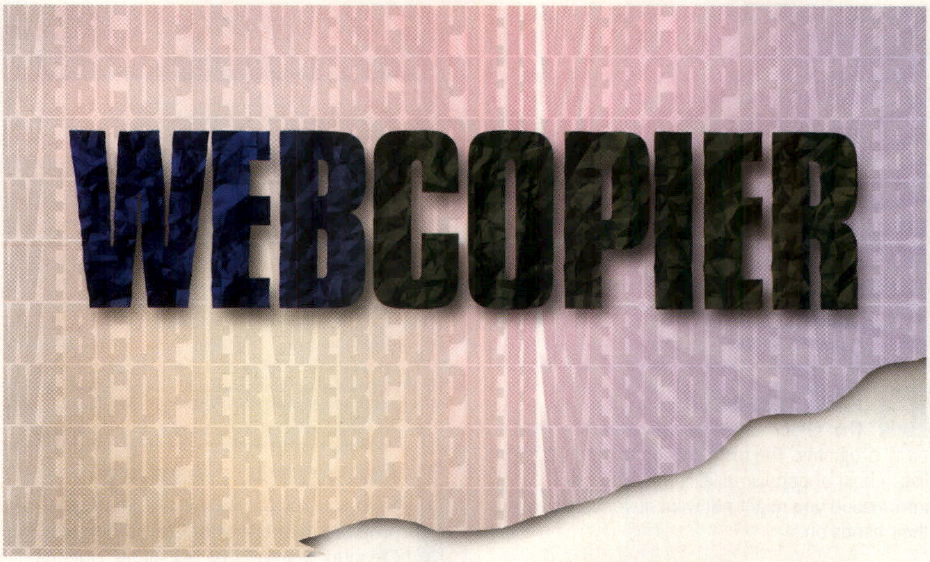
These are small files that retain some information when you visit a Web site. They are useful when that information saves you logging in all the time to a fan forum, but they can be used for more insidious tracking purposes, so you may well wish to keep them pruned. Clean Space lets you selectively do this, so you can keep hold of the nice cookies and spit out the bad.

Cache file

Rather than load or download the same data every time it is needed, a cache file stores it, invisibly to the user, so it will load quicker next time. This is a good idea, but if you visit hundreds of Web sites or use lots of programs the Cache Files can soon eat up space and drain your system resources. A good prune is always worthwhile even if things slow down when you start browsing again.

In brief:
Task: Download Web pages for viewing offline
Software I need: WebCopier 3.2
Difficulty: Beginner
Time I need: 30 minutes

Practical Internet IT'S ON THE CD



Browse offline with WebCopier

CUT DOWN TIME, MONEY AND HASSLE BY DOWNLOADING WEB PAGES FOR VIEWING OFFLINE

NOT EVERYONE IS fortunate enough to have a broadband connection, so for dial-up users on a pay-as-you-go service, accessing the Web still involves a lot of clock-watching.

If you want to avoid hurrying through pages in a frantic effort to save money on your phone bill, or if you're fed up with your connection going down while accessing your favourite sites, it's time you got yourself an offline Web browser. We've included a trial version of one of the best in the business on this month's cover CD, in the shape of WebCopier.

This program allows you to download Web sites and store them locally on your hard drive for viewing offline. Just enter the address of a site or page on the Web and WebCopier will retrieve it and save it to your machine. The process is very easy to set up thanks to a wizard that guides you through the process of creating a new project and entering a URL.

Set your sites

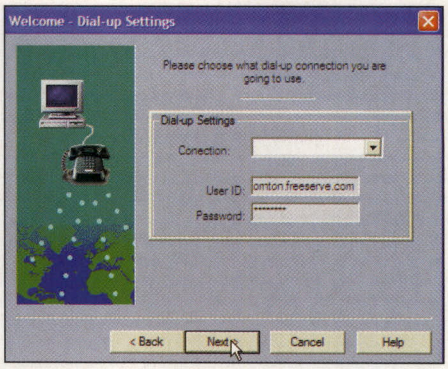
Once you've specified the sites to copy onto your hard drive, WebCopier will connect to the sites and retrieve all of the necessary files as quickly as possible. The program performs precise link searching, including Java parsing, and is capable of downloading up to 100 files simultaneously. It also contains a number of features that make the whole process run effortlessly, including support for proxy servers and the ability to accept usernames and passwords for accessing secure sites.

Take your time

After capturing Web pages, you can peruse them at your leisure using the software's precise and easy-to-use navigation system. You can view the site's complete tree structure and tap into any part of it just by clicking on the appropriate node. WebCopier's built-in browser interface (which you can add skins to) lets you view pages in the normal way using the standard IE-style navigation tools.

Another useful feature of the offline browser is its 'Schedule' facility, which allows you to mark certain pages to be downloaded automatically on a regular basis. As a result, you can make sure you have the current version of a site that's updated frequently, for example a news service.

Above all, using WebCopier ensures that you don't have to keep going online to check the latest additions to your favourite sites.

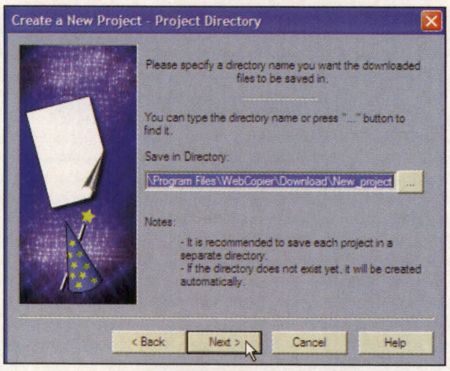

Welcome - Dial-up Settings

Please choose what dial-up connection you are going to use.

Dial-up Settings
Conection:
User ID: omton.freeserve.com
Password: ********

1 Connect up

After installing and launching WebCopier, state whether you are using a dial-up or a LAN connection and click 'Next'. Now select a connection from the drop-down list and enter your username and password before clicking 'Next'.


Create a New Project - Project Directory

Please specify a directory name you want the downloaded files to be saved in.

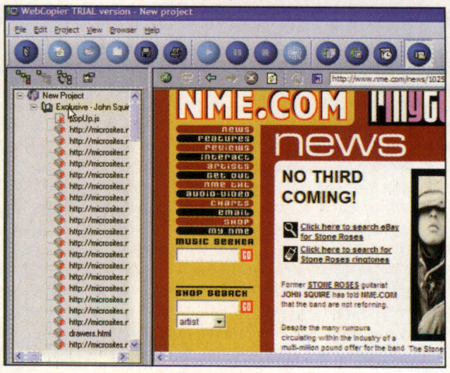
You can type the directory name or press "..." button to find it.

Save in Directory:
\Program Files\WebCopier\Download\New_project

Notes:
- It is recommended to save each project in a separate directory.
- If the directory does not exist yet, it will be created automatically.

4 Destination anywhere

Select a destination for your downloaded site by clicking the 'Browse' icon. It's best to save each project to a different directory on your hard drive. Once you've selected a path, click 'Next' to proceed, then 'Finish' to complete the set up.


WebCopier TRIAL version - New project

http://www.nme.com/news/1025

New Project
Exclusive - John Squir
PopUp.js
http://microsites.r
drawers.html

NO THIRD COMING!

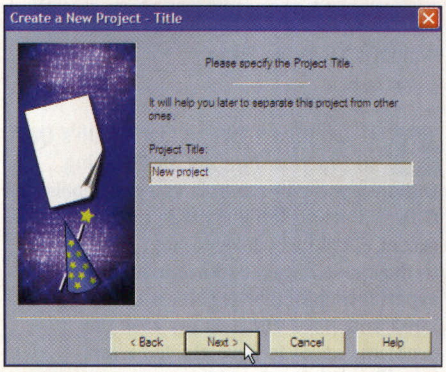
Click here to search eBay for Stone Roses
Click here to search for Stone Roses ringtones

Former STONE ROSES guitarist JOHN SQUIRE has told NME.COM that the band are not reforming.

Despite the many rumours circulating within the industry of a multi-million pound offer for the band The Stone

7 View the files

Once the files have been downloaded, you can start viewing them offline. Double-click on the 'Contents Tree' root node, to start viewing the tree structure of the site, then click on a link to view the files in the program's integrated browser.



Create a New Project - Title

Please specify the Project Title.

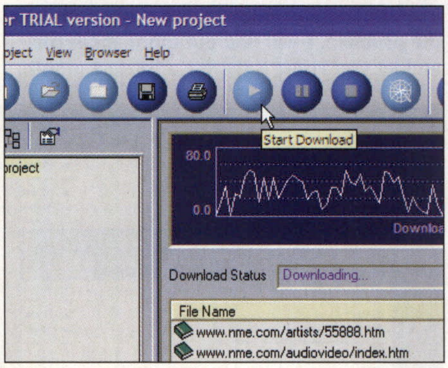
It will help you later to separate this project from other ones.

Project Title: New project

< Back
Next >
Cancel
Help

2 Create a new project

The WebCopier Welcome page will be now displayed in the integrated browser. Click the 'New' icon to enter the 'New Project' wizard. Enter a title for the project to distinguish it from any downloads you carry out later.



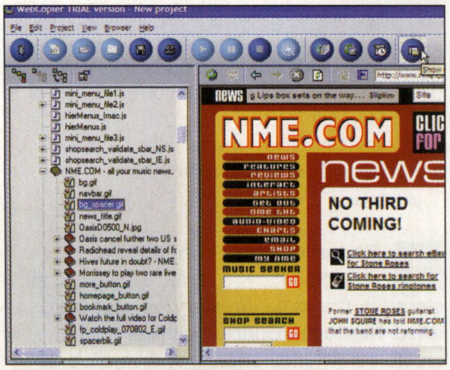
r TRIAL version - New project
oject View Browser Help
Start Download
roject
80.0
0.0
Downloa

Download Status: Downloading...

File Name
www.nme.com/artists/55888.htm
www.nme.com/audiovideo/index.htm

5 Start the download

To transfer the site to your hard drive, click the 'Start Download' icon. The download progress will be displayed in the main window. The program will stop downloading once the whole site has been captured or if you click 'Stop'.



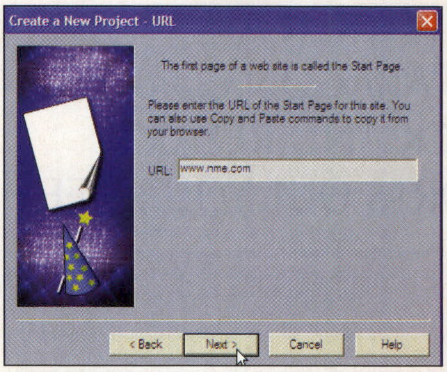
WebCopier TRIAL version - New project
File Edit Project View Browser Help
http://www.
Show

mini_menu_file1.js
mini_menu_file2.js
hierMenus_Imac.js
hierMenus.js
mini_menu_file3.js
shopsearch_validate_sbar_NS.js
shopsearch_validate_sbar_IE.js
NME.COM - all your music news,
bg.gif
navbar.gif
bg_spacer.gif
news_title.gif
OasisD0500_N.jpg
Oasis cancel further two US s
Radiohead reveal details of fc
Hives future in doubt? - NME.
Morrissey to play two rare live
more_button.gif
homepage_button.gif
bookmark_button.gif
Watch the full video for Coldp
fp_coldplay_070802_E.gif
spacerblk.gif

news
g Lips box sets on the way... Slipkn
Site
NME.COM
CLIC
FOR
news
features
reviews
interact
artists
get out
nme ents
audio-video
charts
email
shop
my nme
MUSIC SEEKER
GO
SHOP SEARCH
GO
news
NO THIRD COMING!
Click here to search eBay for Stone Roses
Click here to search for Stone Roses ringtones
Former STONE ROSES guitarist JOHN SQUIRE has told NME.COM that the band are not reforming.

8 Browse offline

You navigate the site offline by expanding or collapsing the nodes in the tree structure. You can also use the 'Back', 'Forward' and 'Refresh' buttons in the integrated browser. To close the file contents pane, click on the 'Show or Hide contents' button.



Create a New Project - URL

The first page of a web site is called the Start Page.

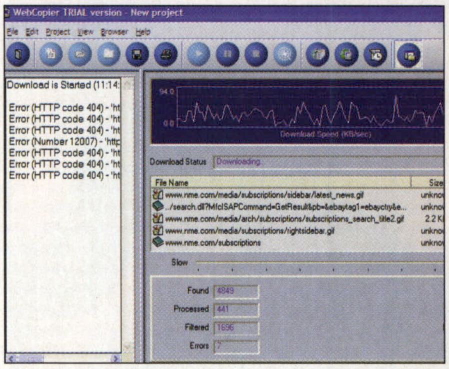
Please enter the URL of the Start Page for this site. You can also use Copy and Paste commands to copy it from your browser.

URL: www.nme.com

< Back
Next >
Cancel
Help

3 Choose an address

You can add a Web address by typing the address manually; importing it from your browser's Favorites; or using the URL shown in the integrated browser. Select a method and click 'Next'. Here we've chosen to enter the address manually.



WebCopier TRIAL version - New project
File Edit Project View Browser Help
94.0
0.0
Download Speed (KB/sec)
Slow

```
Download is Started (11:14:

Error (HTTP code 404) - 'ht
Error (HTTP code 404) - 'ht
Error (HTTP code 404) - 'ht
Error (Number 12007) - 'http
Error (HTTP code 404) - 'ht
Error (HTTP code 404) - 'ht
Error (HTTP code 404) - 'ht
```

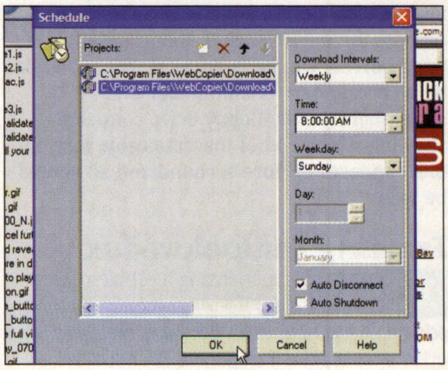
Download Status: Downloading...

File Name	Size
www.nme.com/media/subscriptions/sidebar/latest_news.gif	unkno
../search.dll?MfcISAPCommand=GetResult&pb=&ebaytag1=ebayctry&e...	unkno
www.nme.com/media/arch/subscriptions/subscriptions_search_title2.gif	2.2 K
www.nme.com/media/subscriptions/rightsidebar.gif	unkno
www.nme.com/subscriptions	unkno

Found: 4849
Processed: 441
Filtered: 1696
Errors: 7

6 Check for errors

You'll find that some errors creep in when downloading a site from the Web. To check if any have occurred during your download, click the 'Log File' tab. Use the 'Appendix' in the program's Help section to find definitions for the error messages.



Schedule

Projects:
C:\Program Files\WebCopier\Download\
C:\Program Files\WebCopier\Download\

Download Intervals: Weekly
Time: 8:00:00 AM
Weekday: Sunday
Day: 1
Month: January
☑ Auto Disconnect
☐ Auto Shutdown

OK
Cancel
Help

9 Schedule downloads

If you want to capture sites that change on a regular basis, you can schedule downloads. Click the 'Schedule' button then on 'Insert New Project'. Locate the site that you wish to download then choose an interval to conduct the download.

Jargon buster

Tree structure

This is the name given to the hierarchical structure of a Web page that defines the elements it is made up of. This includes HTML, text, images and links, and can be accessed by expanding the various nodes of a page in the Contents pane within WebCopier.

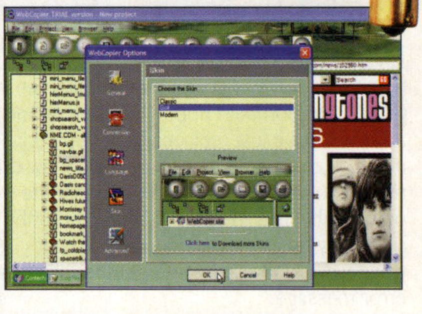
Download

To transfer files from one computer to another. There are several different methods of downloading from the Net, including HTTP, FTP and email attachments. Whenever you load a Web page in your browser, you are essentially downloading the HTML from the Net.

URL

Stands for 'Uniform Resource Locator'. This describes the location and access method of an element on the Internet. All Web sites have their own unique URL, so you could say that a URL is the same to a site as a telephone number is to a phone or a street address is to a house.

Power users' tip



WebCopier Options
Skins
Choose the Skin
Classic
Modern
Preview
OK
Cancel
Help

Skinning WebCopier

WebCopier comes with its own integrated browser, which you can use for viewing pages either online or offline. The browser contains all the usual features you'd expect to see such as Back, Forward and Refresh buttons. What's more, you can even apply different skins to the interface to change its appearance. Simply click on the 'Options' menu and choose 'Skins' before selecting the scheme of your choice.

Q&A
Web browsing

EMAIL **CLIVE PARKER** AT
HELPDESK@PARAGON.CO.UK
THEN SIT BACK AND RELAX
WHILE HE SORTS OUT YOUR LIFE

BACKUP DISK

Floppy drives are a good way to back files up, but make sure they're installed the right way round!

Dead drive

Q I know this isn't actually an Internet question but I hope you can help me anyway. I have just replaced the floppy drive in my PC with a brand new unit but the new drive refuses to work. I have made sure that the power cable and the data cable are both the same way up as on the original drive but whenever I start up my PC I get the following error message:

'Floppy Drive Fail (40)'

The power light on the drive then stays on all the time. Can you help?

Richard Carter

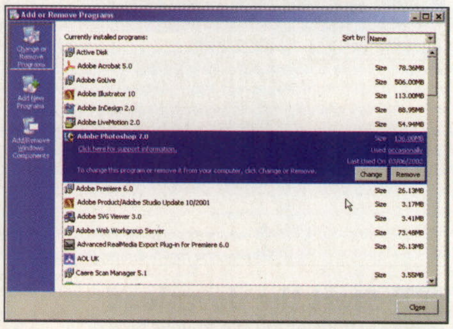
A **Although you have been careful to make sure you have plugged the data cable in using the same orientation as on the original floppy drive, there's no doubt that it is in the wrong way around. While all hard drive connectors are standardised with pin one (marked by a red line on the data cable) always being at the edge of the connector nearest the power socket, the orientation for floppy drives can be either way. There should be an arrow or a small number one somewhere on the floppy drive connector showing which end of the data cable that pin one connects to. Turn it round and all should be well.**

Freezing Outlook redux

Q I've been experiencing a problem with Outlook 2002 freezing whenever I try to add an attachment to an outgoing message or open a message – I emailed Q&A about it last month. I've also noticed that my copy of Word 2002 is now coming up with an error message every time I open and close it. As I said before, I send and receive a lot of email attachments and faxes in the course of my work but I am having even more trouble than I ever had in the past. I'm running a Pentium III 800MHz with Windows XP Home Edition.

Matt Laws

A **If you take a look at last month's Q&A in *Practical Internet* 71 (Freezing Outlook) you will see how you can repair Office XP using the installation CD. But your recent email has provided me with a clue as to the cause because I have just started experiencing similar problems with Outlook 2002 and Word 2002. In my case the problems seem to have started after installing WinFax Pro 10 on my system. Because I am always suspicious if things go wrong after installing new software, I used the Add or Remove Programs control panel to remove WinFax Pro 10 to see if the problem corrected itself. It did. I see from your email that you are using your PC to send faxes, do you have WinFax Pro 10 installed? If so, remove it to see if it solves the problem. I will find out more about this and let you know if there's a fix next month.**



Currently installed programs:

Active Disk	
Adobe Acrobat 5.0	Size 78.36MB
Adobe GoLive	Size 506.00MB
Adobe Illustrator 10	Size 113.00MB
Adobe InDesign 2.0	Size 88.95MB
Adobe LiveMotion 2.0	Size 54.94MB
Adobe Photoshop 7.0 Click here for support information. To change this program or remove it from your computer, click Change or Remove.	Size 126.00MB Used occasionally Last Used On 03/06/2002
Adobe Premiere 6.0	Size 26.13MB
Adobe Product/Adobe Studio Update 10/2001	Size 3.17MB
Adobe SVG Viewer 3.0	Size 3.41MB
Adobe Web Workgroup Server	Size 73.48MB
Advanced RealMedia Export Plug-in for Premiere 6.0	Size 26.13MB
AOL UK	
Caere Scan Manager 5.1	Size 3.55MB

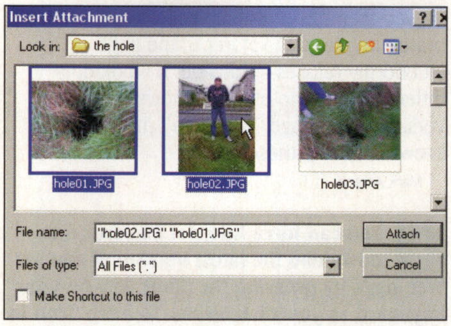
If you think adding a program has caused problems with other software, remove the program causing the problems

Multiple attachments

Q I am using Outlook Express 6 as my email program and I'm very pleased with it, having switched from a Web-based email service. Using POP3 is much better and much easier to maintain in my opinion. Anyway, I have a question that has been bugging me for a while. How can I select more than one attachment at a time when sending emails? I feel I should know how to do this…

Jack Parker

A **First of all, make sure that the attachments you want to send are all stored in the same directory on your hard drive. Now open Outlook Express 6 and create a new email message, then click on the 'paperclip' icon to add an attachment. When the Insert Attachment file selector box opens, press and hold the 'Control' key (Ctrl) on the keyboard while you use the mouse to select the files you want to add to the message. You can use the scroll bars in the**


Insert Attachment
Look in:
the hole
hole01.JPG
hole02.JPG
hole03.JPG
File name:
Files of type:
Attach
Cancel

File name: "hole02.JPG" "hole01.JPG"

Files of type: All Files (*.*)

☐ Make Shortcut to this file

Select multiple files to attach to an email by pressing the Control key while selecting images with the mouse

normal way to select more items from the same directory. When you have finished, click on the 'Attach' button to return to the email message you are composing.

Non-deletable files

Q Sometimes after I download files from Web sites I find that I am unable to delete them in the usual way from the Windows desktop using Windows Explorer. I get messages saying 'unable to delete this file' or 'this file is locked' and the file will not delete. Any idea what's causing this? I am using Windows 98 SE.

Andy Franks

A **This kind of error message usually crops up when the file is still in use by another application. If it is an image file, you may still have a graphics application open that is displaying the image. If it's a Word document, try closing Word. Windows will open a file in a program and then block all other programs from altering the file in any way, including Operating System programs such as Windows Explorer. Close any open applications and you should be able to delete any files.**

Default email

Q I've been using Outlook Express as my email program ever since Internet Explorer 5 added excellent options such as Identities. I have now updated to Outlook 2000 after buying a second-hand copy of Office 2000 because of its extra features such as the Calendar and the brilliant contacts system. The only problem is that although I have set up my account details in Outlook 2000, Outlook Express 6 still thinks it's the default email program and tries to wrestle control away from Outlook 2000. I can't find an option in Outlook

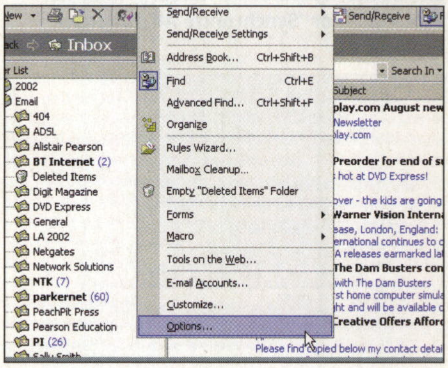
➔

Stop large attachments

Q I live in an area where it's practically impossible to get a broadband connection. The cable companies don't reach my town and BT hasn't gotten around to updating the local exchange to be broadband capable. Anyway, because I'm stuck with a 56k modem I was wondering if there is any way to stop Outlook 2002 from downloading large file attachments. Is this possible?

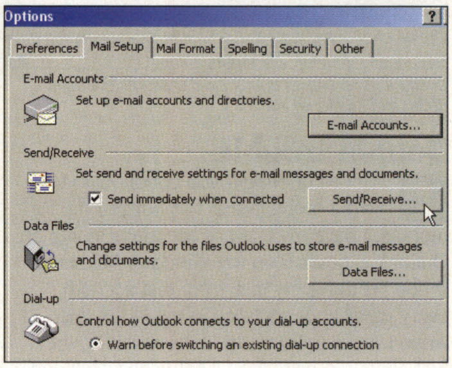
Sam Dyson

A **Outlook 2002 has many options to configure it to work as you want it to. You can certainly restrict the size of messages downloaded or you can choose to download them later, maybe even leave all your email on the server and just download the headers so you can pick and choose exactly which messages you want to read. Follow these steps to restrict email message size to 50k.**


Inbox
Send/Receive
Send/Receive Settings
Address Book... Ctrl+Shift+B
Find Ctrl+E
Advanced Find... Ctrl+Shift+F
Organize
Rules Wizard...
Mailbox Cleanup...
Empty "Deleted Items" Folder
Forms
Macro
Tools on the Web...
E-mail Accounts...
Customize...
Options...
2002
Email
404
ADSL
Alistair Pearson
BT Internet (2)
Deleted Items
Digit Magazine
DVD Express
General
LA 2002
Netgates
Network Solutions
NTK (7)
parkernet (60)
PeachPit Press
Pearson Education
PI (26)
Search In
Subject

1 Your options

Open Outlook 2002 in the usual way and then go to the 'Tools' menu and select the 'Options' command.


Options
Preferences
Mail Setup
Mail Format
Spelling
Security
Other
E-mail Accounts
E-mail Accounts...
Send/Receive
Send/Receive...
Data Files
Data Files...
Dial-up

Set up e-mail accounts and directories.

Set send and receive settings for e-mail messages and documents.

☑ Send immediately when connected

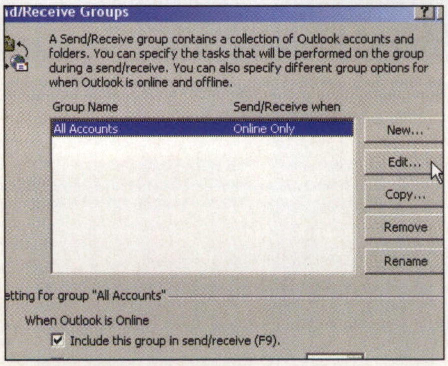
Change settings for the files Outlook uses to store e-mail messages and documents.

Control how Outlook connects to your dial-up accounts.

● Warn before switching an existing dial-up connection

2 Send and receive

When the Options control panel opens, click on the 'Mail Setup' tab. In the Send/Receive section, click on the 'Send/Receive' button.


d/Receive Groups
Group Name
Send/Receive when
New...
Edit...
Copy...
Remove
Rename

A Send/Receive group contains a collection of Outlook accounts and folders. You can specify the tasks that will be performed on the group during a send/receive. You can also specify different group options for when Outlook is online and offline.

All Accounts — Online Only

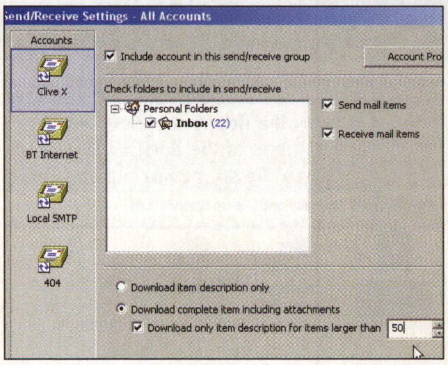
etting for group "All Accounts"

When Outlook is Online

☑ Include this group in send/receive (F9).

3 Choose your group

In the Send/Receive Groups control panel, select the group you want to modify – there is usually just one in most cases – and then click on the 'Edit' button.


end/Receive Settings - All Accounts
Accounts
Clive X
BT Internet
Local SMTP
404
Account Pro
Personal Folders
Inbox (22)

☑ Include account in this send/receive group

Check folders to include in send/receive

☑ Send mail items

☑ Receive mail items

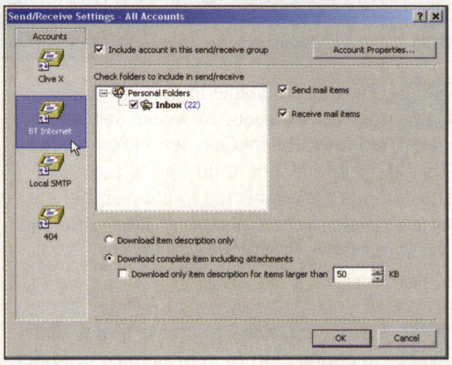
○ Download item description only

● Download complete item including attachments

☑ Download only item description for items larger than 50

4 Select your account

In the Send/Receive Settings panel, select the email account to modify in the Accounts bar on the left. In the bottom-half of the panel select the 'Download only item description for items larger than' check box and type 500 into the box.


Send/Receive Settings - All Accounts
Accounts
Clive X
BT Internet
Local SMTP
404
Account Properties...
Personal Folders
Inbox (22)
OK
Cancel

☑ Include account in this send/receive group

Check folders to include in send/receive

☑ Send mail items

☑ Receive mail items

○ Download item description only

● Download complete item including attachments

☐ Download only item description for items larger than 50 KB

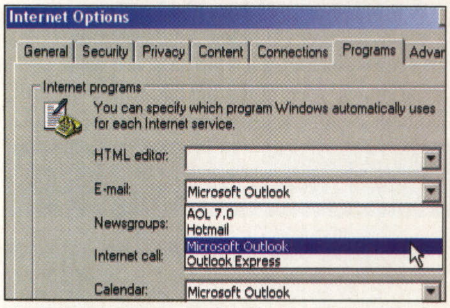
5 Finish up

Now repeat the process for any other accounts you wish to restrict by selecting them in the Accounts bar. When finished, click on the 'OK' button and exit the Options control panel.

→ 2000 to make it the default email application. How do I change this?

Ray Tostevin

A **You can set up this option from the Internet Options control panel. Launch Internet Options from the 'Tools' menu of Internet Explorer 6 and click on the 'Programs' tab. In the pop-up menu labelled Email: select Microsoft Outlook from the list. Um, that's it. You can also use the same tab to set Microsoft Outlook as the default Calendar, Newsgroup and Contacts program.**



Internet programs

You can specify which program Windows automatically uses for each Internet service.

HTML editor:

E-mail: Microsoft Outlook

AOL 7.0
Hotmail
Microsoft Outlook
Outlook Express

Newsgroups:

Internet call:

Calendar: Microsoft Outlook

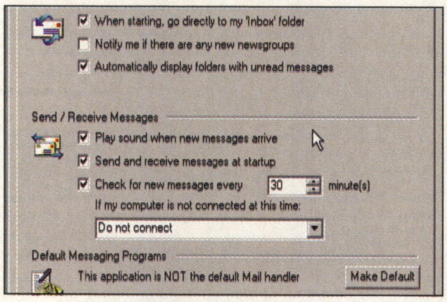
Use the Internet Options control panel to Set Outlook as the default mail handler on your PC

Double trouble

Q I am wondering if you could help me with a problem that has bugged me for months. I have my Hotmail account running on Outlook Express 5 on my Windows ME setup. When I retrieve my mail from that account, every email appears twice in my Inbox. Also when I move them to the deleted folder, they first appear in pairs then it refreshes itself and goes back to single emails. I ran several other email accounts that don't do this. I have friends who have told me they have the same problem with Hotmail regardless of which version of Outlook Express or Operating System they are running. It's a real pain reading one mail and then deleting the other especially when most of it is junk. Hope you can help.

Sarah Sedgeman

A **This problem occurs because you have your Hotmail account set up as the default email account in Outlook Express and you have it configured to open and directly display the Inbox, which downloads email automatically. You also have it set up to check for new email messages when starting up, which again, downloads emails automatically. To stop the duplicates from appearing, select one option or the other, but not both. Go to the 'Tools' menu and select the 'Options' command. On the 'General' tab select the check box marked 'When starting, go directly to my Inbox' folder' or select the checkbox marked 'Send and receive messages at startup'. If you already have duplicate messages go to the 'Tools' menu and select 'Synchronize Account' (Internet Explorer 5) or 'Synchronize All' (Internet Explorer 6).**



☑ When starting, go directly to my 'Inbox' folder

☐ Notify me if there are any new newsgroups

☑ Automatically display folders with unread messages

Send / Receive Messages

☑ Play sound when new messages arrive

☑ Send and receive messages at startup

☑ Check for new messages every 30 minute(s)

If my computer is not connected at this time: Do not connect

Default Messaging Programs

This application is NOT the default Mail handler

Make sure that all of the settings are correct for your Hotmail account to avoid duplicate messages

How refreshing

Q Sometimes when I visit Web pages that are supposed to change on a regular basis they are exactly the same as the last time I viewed them. Even though I click on the Refresh button in Internet Explorer 6, the page stubbornly refuses to change. If I look on a different PC in the office, it shows the newer version of the page. Why won't my Web browser update these pages?

Mark Ashton

A **You can force Internet Explorer 6 to download the latest version of any Web page by pressing the 'Shift' key on your keyboard as you click on the 'Refresh' icon in the browser toolbar. But this is just a temporary solution until the next time the Web pages change. Internet Explorer 6 and other browsers store the 'latest' versions of Web pages on your hard drive. When you open a Web page that you have been to before, the browser loads the version on your hard drive. What you need to do is change the settings of Internet Explorer 6 so that it checks to see if the Web page has changed since the last time it was downloaded. Go to the 'Tools' menu of Internet Explorer 6 and select the 'Internet Options' command. When the Internet Options control panel opens, click on the 'Settings' button in the Temporary Internet Files area of the General settings tab. In the Settings control panel, select the 'Every visit to a page' radio button option in the 'Check for newer versions of stored pages:' section. Click on the 'OK' button to save the settings then exit the Internet Options control panel.**

Dial-up shortcut

Q I want to make a shortcut to my dial-up connection icon and place it on the Quick Launch bar of Windows to save going to the Dial-up Connections window through the Start menu every time. How do I do this?

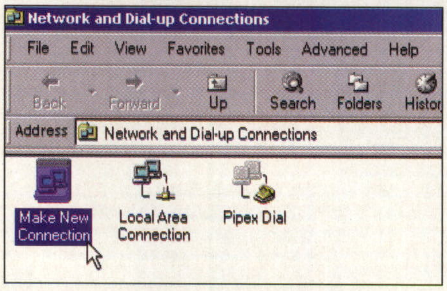
Fiona Scott

Lost connection

Q I have been unable to connect to the Internet for about six weeks now and I have tried my ISP (LineOne.net – taken over by Tiscali) for advice, but to no avail. It looks like the computer is connected to the Net, but the bytes transfer freezes at around 175 – 250 and the screen says Unable To Find Server.

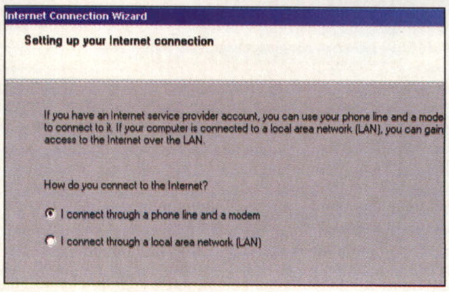
Brian Murphy

A **I think you need to create a new dial-up connection to your service provider. I assume you still want to use your LineOne account so make sure you have your username and password available. Full details of Tiscali, LineOne and TinyWorld/TinyOnline server settings are available on the Tiscali Web site at www.tiscali.co.uk/help/ataglance.**



1 Delete the connection

Go to 'Start' and select 'Settings', 'Network' and 'Dial-Up Connections'. Delete your existing dial-up connection and then click 'Make New Connection'. icon. In the Internet Connection Wizard, select 'Dial-up to the Internet' and then 'Next'.



Setting up your Internet connection

If you have an Internet service provider account, you can use your phone line and a mode to connect to it. If your computer is connected to a local area network (LAN), you can gain access to the Internet over the LAN.

How do you connect to the Internet?

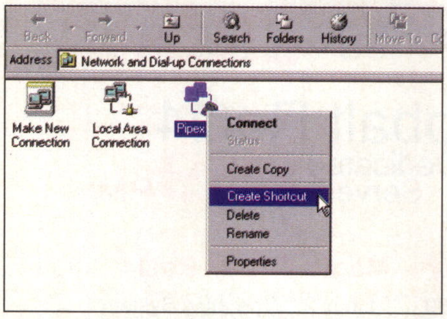
● I connect through a phone line and a modem

○ I connect through a local area network (LAN)

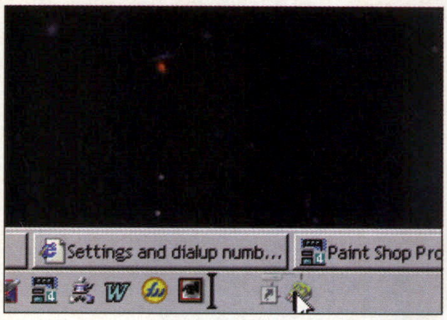
2 Manual set up

On the next page of the wizard, select the option to set up your connection manually and click 'Next'. On the next screen, select 'Connect through a phone line' and continue to the next screen where you can select your modem.

A **It's not too difficult at all. Go to the 'Start' menu and select 'Settings', 'Network' and then 'Dial-up Connections'. When the window opens, right-click on the connection you want to add to the Quick Launch bar and select the 'Create Shortcut' command from the pop-up menu. You will be told the shortcut cannot be created in the Network and Dial-up Connections; select 'Yes' to create the shortcut on the desktop. Now close the window and go to the desktop. Find the shortcut icon you have just created and drag it to the Quick Launch bar and release it. Job done.**


Back
Forward
Up
Search
Folders
History
Move To
Address
Network and Dial-up Connections
Make New Connection
Local Area Connection
Pipex
Connect
Status
Create Copy
Create Shortcut
Delete
Rename
Properties

To create a desktop shortcut, begin by right-clicking on your dial-up connection...


Settings and dialup numb...
Paint Shop Pro

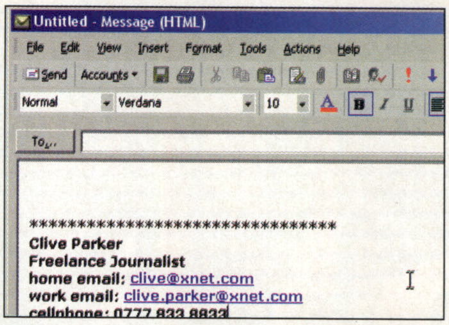
...then drag the shortcut from the desktop to the Windows Quick Launch bar

Missing email fields

Q I've recently upgraded to Outlook 2002 and I seem to have lost the Subject: field (among others) from the top of my new email messages. I have been clicking around and I suppose I've unselected something or switched something off, but I can't seem to switch it back on again.

Dan Newman

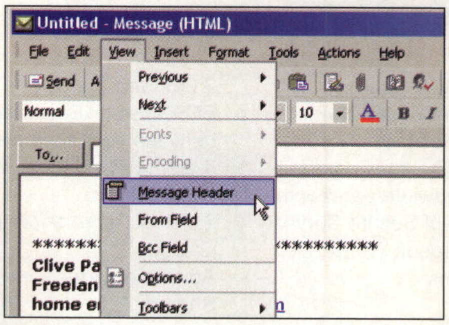
A **It's easy enough to change settings without realising you have done so when experimenting with a new program. Follow these steps to restore your missing fields in Outlook 2002.**


Untitled - Message (HTML)
File
Edit
View
Insert
Format
Tools
Actions
Help
Send
Accounts
Normal
Verdana
10
To...

****
Clive Parker
Freelance Journalist
home email: clive@xnet.com
work email: clive.parker@xnet.com
cellphone: 0777 833 8833

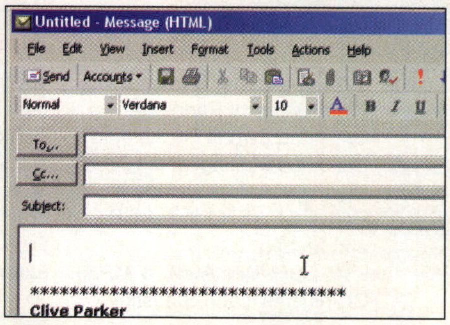
1 Open a new message

Go to the File menu of Outlook 2002 and then select 'New', 'Mail', 'Message'. When the new message opens you can see that only the To: field is visible.


Untitled - Message (HTML)
File
Edit
View
Insert
Format
Tools
Actions
Help
Send
Normal
10
To...
Previous
Next
Fonts
Encoding
Message Header
From Field
Bcc Field
Options...
Toolbars
Clive Pa
Freelan
home e

2 View menu

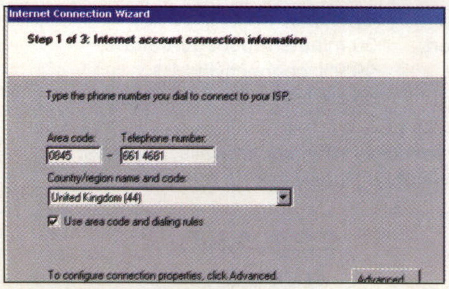
Now in the email message's menu bar, go to the 'View' menu and select the 'Message Header' command so it is selected.


Untitled - Message (HTML)
File
Edit
View
Insert
Format
Tools
Actions
Help
Send
Accounts
Normal
Verdana
10
To...
Cc...
Subject:

****
Clive Parker

3 Blind carbon copy

This makes sure that the Subject: and CC: fields are now displayed. You can go back to the View menu and select the BCC: field if you want to use it in Outlook.


Internet Connection Wizard
Advanced

Step 1 of 3: Internet account connection information

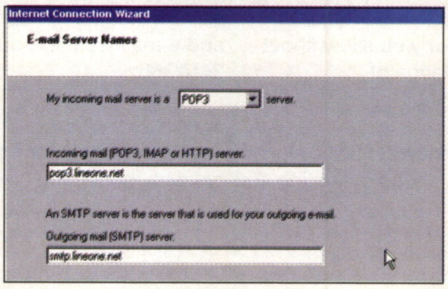
Type the phone number you dial to connect to your ISP.

Area code: 0845 - Telephone number: 661 4681
Country/region name and code: United Kingdom (44)
☑ Use area code and dialing rules

To configure connection properties, click Advanced.

3 Enter your dial-up

Now you have to enter your dial-up number, the exact number depends on the type of account you have. On the next screen enter your username and password, then move on to create a name for your connection.


Internet Connection Wizard

E-mail Server Names

My incoming mail server is a POP3 server.

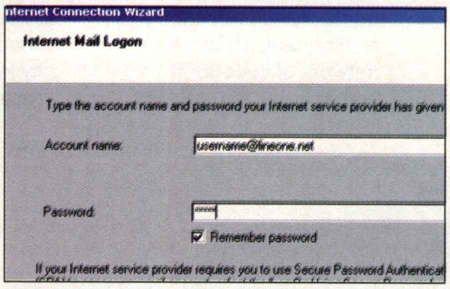
Incoming mail (POP3, IMAP or HTTP) server: pop3.lineone.net

An SMTP server is the server that is used for your outgoing e-mail.

Outgoing mail (SMTP) server: smtp.lineone.net

4 Your email details

Select 'Yes' to set up an email account, unless you already have an account configured in Outlook Express. On the next screen type in your name then enter your email address. Enter the POP3 and SMTP server names then click on 'Next'


nternet Connection Wizard

Internet Mail Logon

Type the account name and password your Internet service provider has given

Account name: username@lineone.net

Password: *****

☑ Remember password

If your Internet service provider requires you to use Secure Password Authenticat

5 New connection

On the last page of the wizard, enter your address and password. Click 'Next', then 'Finish'. In the Network and Dial-up Connections window there will be a new connection icon. Double-click this and then click the 'Dial' button to connect.

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- Unlimited Autoresponders
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- Graphical Usage Statistics

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VIRTUAL CONTROL PANEL 2001

Welcome to the Virtual Control Panel 2001

You have no new mail in mouse2@mickey1.co.uk

Are you a new user? Click here.

Statistics Central

Virtual Control Panel 2002

For shared hosting, the Virtual Control Panel 2002 allows you to automatically control your web site without any knowledge of programming!

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TrueBlue Diamond
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Your Business Online

EXPERT ADVICE ON CREATING PROFITABLE SMALL BUSINESSES

Welcome...

WELCOME BACK TO another issue of Your Business Online. The big news this month has to be the inclusion of a fully working version of EROL 3.0 Small Store on our cover CD. We've managed to get a world exclusive of this brand new full product (worth £99) and we'd urge every one of you to check out the control it affords over eCommerce site design and order management. See our three-page workshop on page 102 for more details.

Elsewhere we take a look at one of the most important questions facing any small business: what to do about choosing an ISP. Do you stick with trusty old dial-up or is unmetered the way forward? Should you opt for ADSL or a more expensive leased line service? We show you how to make the right decision on page 98.

Last but not least, if you're struggling for inspiration, we reveal how the people behind Cheapflights.co.uk put their Web site together. Read their opinions and advice on page 96.

Paul Newman, Editor
pauln@paragon.co.uk

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Discover how BT is helping small businesses cover the cost of satellite broadband

Your Business Online Q & A p95
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How do they do that? p96
James Thornton gets the lowdown from Cheapflights.co.uk

Small business ISPs p98
How do you pick an ISP for your business? We guide you through one of the more tricky procedures facing any small business

eCommerce Workshop p102
Start selling online with one of this month's full version programs – EROL 3.0

Web hosting listings p104
Pick the perfect home for your business' Web site

Rural communities look set to receive broadband at last

BTopenworld dishes up rural broadband

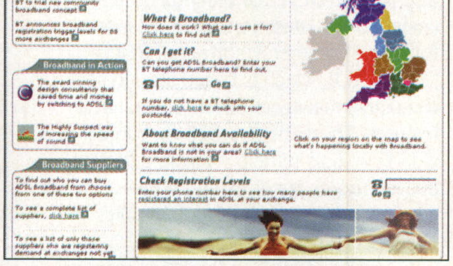
SATELLITE BROADBAND INITIATIVE FROM BTOPENWORLD SET TO BRING HIGH SPEED ACCESS TO THE COUNTRYSIDE

BTOPENWORLD WILL HELP rural businesses pay for satellite broadband equipment to try and bring Broadband Britain to the countryside.

The ISP's latest broadband initiative aims to stimulate the take up of high speed Internet services in rural areas by allowing businesses to pay for costly connection equipment over a period of three years.

The cost of connecting to one of the Business Satellite 500 products will also be waived for the first 1,000 firms that sign up.

Although satellite Internet access has been around for a few years now, the cost of installing this type of access has always been fairly prohibitive. Equipment costs anything up to £900, while ISPs can charge monthly fees of over £100.



BT announces demand levels needed to bring ADSL broadband to 169 more exchanges

BT to trial new community broadband concept

BT announces broadband registration trigger levels for 88 more exchanges

The award winning design consultancy that saved time and money by switching to ADSL

The Highly Suspect way of increasing the speed of sound

To find out who you can buy ADSL Broadband from choose from one of these two options

To see a complete list of suppliers, click here

To see a list of only those suppliers who are registering demand at exchanges not yet

Welcome to Broadband

What is Broadband?
How does it work? What can I use it for? Click here to find out

Can I get it?
Can you get ADSL Broadband? Enter your BT telephone number here to find out.

If you do not have a BT telephone number, click here to check with your postcode.

About Broadband Availability
Want to know what you can do if ADSL Broadband is not in your area? Click here for more information

Click on your region on the map to see what's happening locally with Broadband.

Check Registration Levels
Enter your phone number here to see how many people have registered an interest in ADSL at your exchange.

Rural firms can find out when their local exchange will be broadband-enabled by visiting BT Wholesale's Web site

Because of the current limitations of ADSL and cable services, satellite access is the only form of broadband available to most rural businesses in the UK.

"Small and medium-sized companies often need to keep a close eye on cashflow and can be put off by making investments that could really help their business. By allowing companies to spread the initial start up costs we're removing one of the biggest hurdles," said Tony Harris, President of BTopenworld's Business Internet Services division.

Businesses interested in the new deal can find out more by visiting **www.btopenworld.com/satellite** or calling **0800 671555.**

Rural ADSL getting closer

Businesses preferring not to splash out on satellite systems can take heart in news that rural ADSL is getting that little bit closer.

BT Wholesale has announced 'trigger levels' for over 169 new local exchanges, many of which are in rural areas. People living near a respective exchange must register an interest in broadband with their ISP. When the number of registrations reaches a certain level BT will come out and upgrade the exchange.

Find out more about the system at **www.workingwithyou.co.uk.**

News in brief

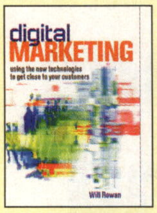
→Free domain names

Web hosting firm 1&1 is reprising its offer of free .info domain names to new customers from earlier this year by offering prospective customers free .biz domain names.

The offer, which is available until the end of October, is open to all new customers and any businesses switching from a rival hosting firm. For more information about the deal visit the firm's Web site at **www.oneandone.co.uk**

→Marketing magic

Marketing expertise is often in short supply for small firms, but a new book means even the smallest firm can get to grips with marketing concepts for eBusiness. Digital Marketing: Using the New Techniques to Get Close to Your Customers has been written by experienced eCommerce consultant Will Rowan and covers marketing techniques for everything from the Web to interactive television. For purchasing information, go to www.thedigitalmarketingbook.com

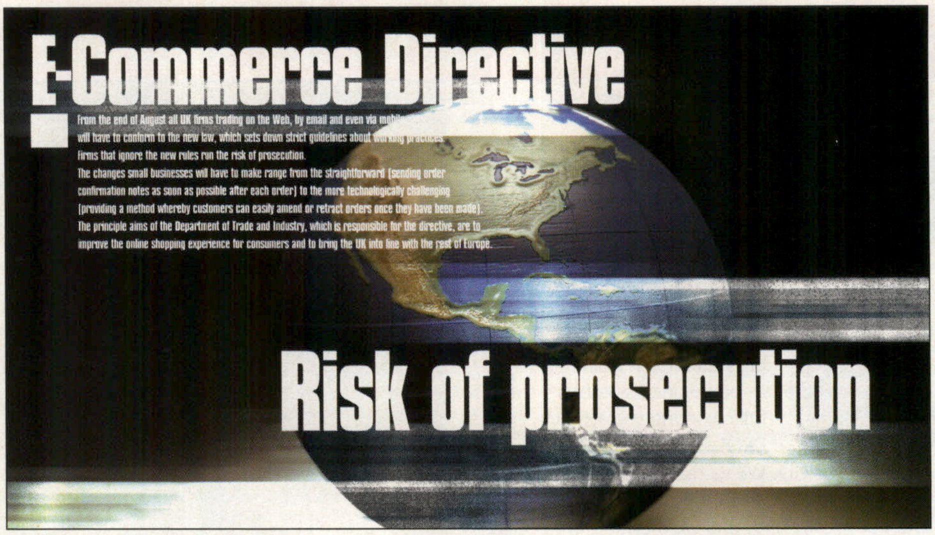


→Get into the zone

A new service is promising to cut the cost of making conference calls. MeetingZone, run by former Quip chief Steve Gandy and telecoms veteran Tim Duffy, aims to reduce conference call costs by up to 40 percent by removing expensive subscription charges. The firm's Standard Plan costs 12p per minute per person. Find out more about MeetingZone at **www.meetingzone.com**

→Quick clarification

Regular readers may recall that back in *PI* 70 we ran a story about WorldPay giving away a free guide to selling on the Web in association with the government's UK Online For Business initiative. At the time we printed a Web address that we were assured would be correct. However, the site has now been moved to www.worldpay.com/ukonline. Apologies for any confusion.



From the end of August all UK firms trading on the Web, by email and even via mobil
will have to conform to the new law, which sets down strict guidelines about working practices.
Firms that ignore the new rules run the risk of prosecution.
The changes small businesses will have to make range from the straightforward (sending order confirmation notes as soon as possible after each order) to the more technologically challenging (providing a method whereby customers can easily amend or retract orders once they have been made).
The principle aims of the Department of Trade and Industry, which is responsible for the directive, are to improve the online shopping experience for consumers and to bring the UK into line with the rest of Europe.

Online trading law comes into force

NEW LAWS FORCE SMALL FIRMS TO SMARTEN UP THEIR ACTS

FROM THE END of August all UK firms trading on the Web, by email and even via mobile phones will have to conform to the new E-Commerce Directive, which sets down strict guidelines about working practices. Firms that ignore the new rules run the risk of prosecution.

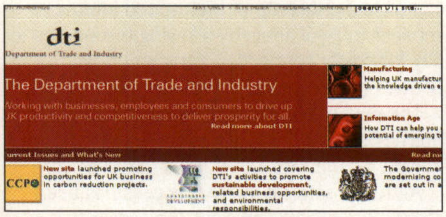
The changes small businesses will have to make range from the straightforward (sending order confirmation notes as soon as possible after each order) to the more technologically challenging (providing a method whereby customers can easily amend or retract orders once they have been made).

The principle aims of the Department of Trade and Industry, which is responsible for the directive, are to improve the online shopping experience for consumers and to bring the UK into line with the rest of Europe. Not everybody is convinced that the new directives are a good thing, however.

"While the objectives are sound, I believe most small firms will see this as yet more Red Tape. Many businesses are already sceptical about the over-hyped promotion of eCommerce and broadband" said *Practical Internet's* eBusiness expert, Gerard Liston.

"Overall this is unlikely to support the government's objective of making Britain the eCommerce capital of the world" he added.

For a more comprehensive breakdown of what the E-Commerce Directive entails, point your browser at **www.dti.gov.uk**



dti
Department of Trade and Industry

The Department of Trade and Industry

Working with businesses, employees and consumers to drive up UK productivity and competitiveness to deliver prosperity for all.
Read more about DTI

Manufacturing
Helping UK manufactur
the knowledge driven e

Information Age
How DTI can help you
potential of emerging t

urrent Issues and What's New

New site launched promoting opportunities for UK business in carbon reduction projects.

New site launched covering DTI's activities to promote **sustainable development**, related business opportunities, and environmental responsibilities.

The Governme
modernising co
are set out in a

Find out what you need to know about the E-Commerce Directive from the DTI's Web site

EROL 3 boosts businesses

LATEST VERSION PROMISES TO MAKE LIFE EASIER

SOFTWARE DEVELOPER DREAM Team has launched the latest version of its award-winning eCommerce software EROL.

EROL 3.0, which is based around seven distinctive managers boasts several new features. These include B2B functionality; workflow tools to help retailers generate delivery notes, invoices and order confirmation messages automatically; and enhanced order management.

A further addition to the EROL range is EROL 3.0 Developer Edition, aimed at those wanting to build and maintain multiple stores from a single installation.

EROL3
FULL EDITION
ELECTRONIC RETAIL ONLINE
The 7 EROL Managers
e-commerce
web building software

EROL (Electronic Retail Online, not the lead singer of Hot Chocolate), is an online store creation tool that has long been associated with design flexibility and offers excellent integration with Dreamweaver MX. Find out more from **www.erolonline.co.uk**

*Take EROL 3 for a spin by installing the full version of EROL 3 Small Store from the cover CD.

Your Business Online Q&A

EVERY ISSUE OUR RESIDENT EXPERT, **GERARD LISTON** FROM SMALLBIZ UK, ANSWERS YOUR QUESTIONS. CONTACT GERARD BY EMAILING **PI@PARAGON.CO.UK** OR VISITING THE YOUR BUSINESS ONLINE WEB SITE AT **WWW.YBOANSWERS.CO.UK**

Name game

Q I would very much like to set up an event business online, but I don't even know how to register a name that is not already in use. Can you help?

Cliodhna Harkin

A **It's well worth taking time to sort out the name of your business at the outset. You may find two Web sites of particular help.**

Even if you are not planning to set up a limited company, it is worth looking at the Companies House Web site (www.companieshouse.gov.uk). Among the 'Guidance Booklets & FAQs' section you'll find advice about selecting company and business names. Certain words and expressions cannot be used or require approval.

If you are planning to set up a limited company, however, you can search the list of current company names to find those that are currently in use.

It might also be worth your while to take a look at www.patent.gov.uk – the Patent Office Web site. Along with offering information on patents, designs and copyright issues, there is a huge amount of advice about trade mark registration. This may be necessary to avoid confusion with products and services offered by other businesses and to protect you own business in the future.

All of this may seem to be a laborious and time-consuming task at a stage when you are probably more concerned about cashflow and customers. You may even feel it is worth employing the professional services of a trademark lawyer. However you tackle the issues, it is well-worth getting these matters right to avoid potentially costly problems later on.

Virus vexation

Q After months of planning, I have finally decided to start my own business online. This will basically involve a large amount of people sending emails with attachments. I currently use Outlook Express and am concerned about receiving a trojan or virus as an attachment. Could you recommend something to counter such acts – or at least calm my nerves?'

James Kelly

A **To answer your last point first: no, I cannot calm your nerves. You are quite right to be concerned about virus infection, which remains a perennial and serious problem. Just one rogue email can cause massive disruption and, for a small firm, can even jeopardise the business.**

Spending a few pounds on anti-virus software, such as Norton AntiVirus, is one of the wisest investments anyone involved in eCommerce can make. A program such as this will integrate with Outlook Express and other email software to check messages and attachments you receive. If you are concerned about forgetting to regularly upload the latest virus definitions, you may want to look at online solutions, such as McAfee.com. You'll find a demo of Norton AntiVirus and a host of other security utilities, such as the totally free AVG Antivirus and the firewall application Zone Alarm, on this month's second free CD: The Complete Net Security Toolkit.

Marketing mystery

Q I know that marketing should figure somewhere in my business plans, but I have neither the time nor the knowledge to sort this out. I certainly cannot afford to employ a marketing manager or advertising agency. So, is there an affordable and practical solution for small firms?

Jack Somerfield

A **In my experience, a good marketing plan is probably the most important part of a good business plan. However, as you indicate, many small firms assume that it takes a lot of time, expertise and money to put one together.**

The 'Customer Touchstone' is one solution that you might like to consider. Based on award-winning research, this simple planning tool leads you through the crucial steps that will help to formulate a meaningful business plan. Using Web pages that can be viewed throughout the company, it helps to ensure that everyone recognises the importance of customers and the role they can play in their needs. Since the plan is kept concise and can be quickly updated, it avoids the risk of formulating a plan that becomes out-of-date or sits around gathering dust in a desk drawer somewhere.

You can obtain a copy of the software and guidelines by clicking on the 'Marketing Plans' link in the 'Sales Success' section of www.yboanswers.co.uk

Gerard's sites

A SELECTION OF ONLINE RESOURCES TO HELP YOU PLAN AND MAINTAIN YOUR BUSINESS

Companies House

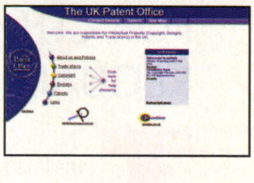
www.companieshouse.gov.uk

Struggling to think of a name for your new business or needing to do a bit of research on the people you're competing against? Check out this excellent online resource for all the information you need. Don't forget that certain words are banned from company names.

The Patent Office

www.patent.gov.uk

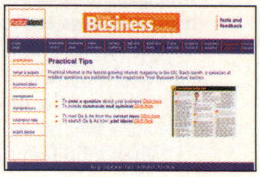
Once you've chosen a name for your small business you'll want to get it trademarked. This can be something of a legal minefield, however, so pay a visit to this site to get acquainted with all the ins and outs of patent, design and copyright issues.



YBO Answers

www.yboanswers.co.uk

Having a coherent marketing strategy is essential for any firm, but sometimes it's difficult to know how to go about it. Visit the Your Business Online Web site and get your hands on the Customer Touchstone software, mentioned in the last question, for really effective marketing information.



How we built Cheapflights.co.uk

DESIGNED AS A COMPARISON SERVICE FOR JET-SETTERS LOOKING FOR CUT-PRICE FLIGHTS, CHEAPFLIGHTS NOW HAS ONE MILLION REGUALR USERS. **JAMES THORNTON** FINDS OUT WHY

The story of Cheapflights has all the hallmarks of a dotcom rags to riches yarn. Dreamed up by *Harpers and Queen* Travel Editor, John Hatt, back in 1996, the site was designed to offer a means for travellers to get about as cheaply as possible. Four years later he sold Cheapflights to a group of investors who shared his passion for travelling. Dramatic highs and lows ensued, following the rise of budget airlines and the fallout across the air travel industry after 11 September. Cheapflights has withstood the turbulence though, and is now attracting record numbers of visitors.

"When John Hatt set up the site in 1996 his main objectives were to seize upon the Internet to help consumers find cheap flights better than they could already," explains Cheapflights Chief Operating Officer Hugo Burge.

"He wanted to create a site that gave transparency, speed, neutrality and was simple enough for Aunt Agatha to use" he adds.

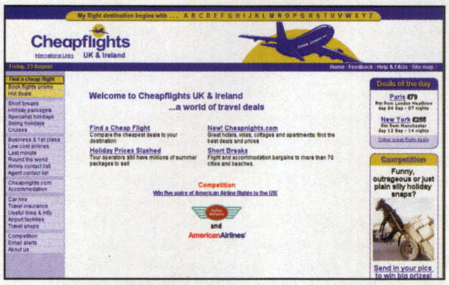
Not only is Aunt Agatha now using the site, but it seems she's told a few of her mates in her knitting circle about it. The site has recently reported one million monthly visits, a feat Burge puts down to an improvement in the quality and content of the site coupled with the huge growth in consumers hunting for bargains.

"We have learned a lot from John (Hatt) as he really understood the consumer" muses Burge. "However, we have big ambitions and our objectives move with the times. The flights market is more confusing than ever for consumers, partly because there are more cheap fares around."

Up, up and away

The fact that there are so many cheap fares around is a key factor behind the success of Cheapflights. The service acts as a portal to flight deals from different airlines and operators. Because the site doesn't actually sell flights, it retains a level of independence that Burge believes is welcomed by jet-setters.

"We offer choice and transparency," he explains. "If you want to fly to Malaga you want to get the complete picture before making a


My flight destination begins with . . . A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
Cheapflights
International Links
UK & Ireland
Friday 23 August
Home | Feedback | Help & FAQs | Site map
Find a cheap flight
Book flights online
Hot deals
Short breaks
Holiday packages
Specialist holidays
Skiing holidays
Cruises
Business & 1st class
Low cost airlines
Last minute
Round the world
Airline contact list
Agent contact list
Cheapnights.com
Accommodation
Car hire
Travel insurance
Useful links & info
Airport facilities
Travel shops
Competition
Email alerts
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Deals of the day
Competition
and
AmericanAirlines

Welcome to Cheapflights UK & Ireland
...a world of travel deals

Find a Cheap Flight
Compare the cheapest deals to your destination

New! Cheapnights.com
Great hotels, villas, cottages and apartments: find the best deals and prices

Holiday Prices Slashed
Tour operators still have millions of summer packages to sell

Short Breaks
Flight and accommodation bargains to more than 70 cities and beaches.

Competition
Win five pairs of American Airline flights to the US!

Paris £79
Rtn from London Heathrow
dep 04 Sep - 07 nights

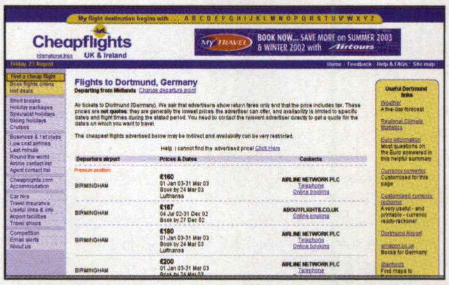
New York £255
Rtn from Manchester
dep 12 Sep - 14 nights

Other great flight deals

Funny, outrageous or just plain silly holiday snaps?

Send in your pics to win big prizes!

The opening page to Cheapflights is easy to navigate, with a special 'Deals of the day' section


My flight destination begins with . . . A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
Cheapflights
International links
UK & Ireland
MY TRAVEL
BOOK NOW... SAVE MORE on SUMMER 2003 & WINTER 2002 with Airtours
Friday 23 August
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Short breaks
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Skiing holidays
Cruises
Business & 1st class
Low cost airlines
Last minute
Round the world
Airline contact list
Agent contact list
Cheapnights.com
Accommodation
Car hire
Travel insurance
Useful links & info
Airport facilities
Travel shops
Competition
Email alerts
About us

Flights to Dortmund, Germany
Departing from Midlands Change departure point

Air tickets to Dortmund (Germany). We ask that advertisers show return fares only and that the price includes tax. These prices are **not quotes**: they are generally the lowest prices the advertiser can offer, and availability is limited to specific dates and flight times during the stated period. You need to contact the relevant advertiser directly to get a quote for the dates on which you want to travel.

The cheapest flights advertised below may be indirect and availability can be very restricted.

Help: I cannot find the advertised price! Click Here

Departure airport	Prices & Dates	Contacts
Premium position		
BIRMINGHAM	£160 01 Jan 03-31 Mar 03 Book by 24 Mar 03 Lufthansa	AIRLINE NETWORK PLC Telephone Online booking
BIRMINGHAM	£187 04 Jul 02-31 Dec 02 Book by 27 Dec 02	ABOUTFLIGHTS.CO.UK Online booking
BIRMINGHAM	£180 01 Jan 03-31 Mar 03 Book by 24 Mar 03 Lufthansa	AIRLINE NETWORK PLC Telephone Online booking
BIRMINGHAM	£200 01 Jan 03-31 Mar 03	AIRLINE NETWORK PLC Telephone

Useful Dortmund links
Weather
A five-day forecast
Regional Climate Statistics
Euro information
Most questions on the Euro answered in this helpful summary
Currency converter
Customised for this page
Customised currency reckoner
A very useful - and printable - currency ready-reckoner
Dortmund Airport
amazon.co.uk
Books for Germany
Stanfords
Find maps to

As Cheapflights doesn't actually sell any flights, users are directed to the company offering the deal

Site stats

Cheapflights
www.cheapflights.co.uk

- **Who designed it?**
In-house

- **How many people were involved in the beginning?**
One

- **How many people are involved now?**
18

- **Time taken?**
Two weeks

- **Software used?**
Bespoke software, plus some hand-coding

- **How many visitors?**
One million a month (July 2002)

purchasing decision. The biggest motivating force while purchasing a flight price is that the person you meet in a café on holiday paid a fraction of what you did for your flight. We do our best to help make sure this never happens."

Of course, acting as a middleman for airlines and flight operators means that once a visitor (or viewer, as Burge dubs them) has found a cheap deal they must desert the comfort of the Cheapflights pages to look for the deal on another site, or phone the operator direct for more information.

Many online businesses might baulk at the prospect of 'losing' visitors in this way, as there's a danger that once a user has left the site after finding the deal they want, they simply bookmark the site used to buy the deal from and forget about the matchmaker completely. Burge is unphased by this prospect, though.

"If a viewer bookmarks a partner site then that is great. We introduced a great site, we've done our job. But you would be bonkers to bookmark the thousands of sites we link to when you can come back to us and find specifically what you want.

Hugo Burge: "We have been cautious but determined in what was a virtual version of the Wild West"

"I don't think that the Internet is about trying to trap consumers. Back in 1996, when other companies were obsessed with registration, Cheapflights stole huge market share by saying 'you are free to come and go'. The quality of the service provided should bring you back. Nothing else."

Flying without wings

It's not been a completely smooth ride for Cheapflights, though. John Hatt's vision of a portal made by travellers for travellers had one vital flaw – travellers aren't Web designers.

"The Internet is not easy," Burge muses. "We have found technology hard, particularly because there are so many false promises around. The Internet is, to my mind, a revolution, but you have to be careful about what it can deliver. It's like cars in the 1920s. When they first came out there were more deaths on the road than now. There were no rules, no road signs, no comprehension of what a car could safely do… the result was Toad of Toad Hall carnage."

> **"THE SERVICE QUALITY SHOULD BRING YOU BACK. NOTHING ELSE"**
>
> **HUGO BURGE, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER**

Burge is adamant that the technical problems experienced when Cheapflights was getting off the ground have stood the site good stead for the journey ahead, adding: "In business you do make mistakes but we have got more right than wrong. We have been cautious but determined in what was a virtual version of the Wild West."

Good relations

Cheapflight's revenues are almost entirely driven by the travel companies offering the flight deals, and the company prides itself on its relationship with these advertisers.

"We work very well with all of our partners to ensure that they can update as often and easily as they like using the best information that they have available," says Hugo Burge.

"We have made huge leaps forward in sourcing these deals directly from these companies' own databases. When we started all the fares on the site were added by hand! We are working with advertisers towards the holy grail of making it possible to buy the cheapest fares within a few clicks, which I believe will transform the site making it even better to use."

Alright on the night

World domination may still be a fair distance beyond the horizon for Cheapflights, but the company is now beginning to make in-roads into the international marketplace with its newly relaunched accommodation portal, Cheapnights.co.uk. Burge and his team were aware that Cheapflights would only ever draw UK users, as the flights offered are always departing from British airports. However, they hit upon the idea that a gateway to late hotel bookings around the world would appeal to a global audience and armed with another catchy domain name, set out to try and repeat the success of Cheapflights.

"Hotel and accommodation bargains are relevant to you wherever you are in the world," explains Burge. "If we launched a separate site then it would be usable all over the world – just what the Internet is all about and a challenge we couldn't turn down."

Perhaps the reason why Cheapflights has taken off lies in the fact that its intrepid, travel-mad staff haven't lost this appetite for new challenges. Couple this with a cautious approach to making radical business decisions, and you have a site that is not only destined to stay aloft, but which could soar to the top of the online travel market. ■

TIME SCALE

September 1996	October 1996	January 2000	August 2000	April 2001	January 2002	July 2002
Travel journalist John Hatt comes up with the idea for an online flight portal	After only a couple of weeks, the first Cheapflights site goes live	The site undergoes a redesign for the new millennium	Several tweaks are made to the site to help improve navigation	The accommodation portal, Cheapnights.co.uk, is launched	Cheapflights is treated to a second wholesale redesign	Cheapflights reaches the one million users mark

Pick the right ISP for your business

CHOOSING AN ISP TO SUIT YOUR eBUSINESS EXTENDS BEYOND FINDING THE CHEAPEST DEAL. WE HIGHLIGHT THE SERVICES THAT OFFER THE BEST OPTIONS FOR YOU

There are many types of ISP available to fledgling eBusinesses and they come in all different shapes and sizes. Essentially, however, there are three distinct categories: dial-up, broadband and leased lines. So how do you know which of these three distinctly different strains of Internet access is right for you? And once you've decided what type of connection you want, how do you select the right provider to connect you? Here's a rundown of where to start, what to look for, and what to avoid...

Dial A for access

Dial-up ISPs, which charge you by the minute for the time you spend online, may have had their day, but are still the most popular form of access for home users and as good a connection as any for a small business trading online. If you're a sole trader, have a small firm with only a few employees or want to begin with a basic site to see if your idea takes off, you can take advantage of the simple, cheap Internet access plans offered by dial-up providers to keep your costs to a minimum.

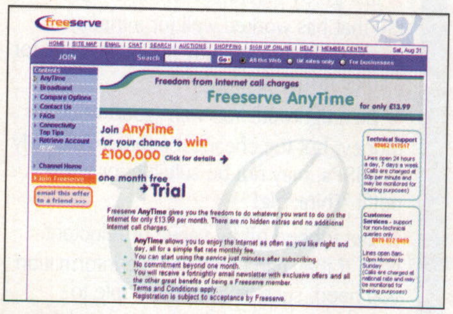
Dial-up access comes in three different formats: metered, where you pay by the minute for the time you spend online; unmetered, where you pay a monthly fee in exchange for supposedly unlimited access, and subscription, where you pay a monthly fee and for the time you spend online. The latter type is generally best suited to small businesses.

If you're already connected to the Net at home, check your current deal – it may well come with enough Web space to host your site. Check with your provider, however, that business use is allowed. Many ISPs object to home user accounts being used to host business sites as they'd rather that you signed up for one of their more expensive business-oriented deals.

The downside to dial-up is that access is slow, expensive for heavy users and frequently unreliable. It's vital for businesses to have rock solid connections as downtime can cost dearly. To make sure you get the most reliable access on the block it's better to go for a subscription ISP. You'll find these deals better suited to small businesses, as less users share a modem at the ISP's end, Web space is allowed to be used for commercial purposes and extras are usually included to aid you or your Web designer. Easy.net (**www.easy.net**) charges £11.75 a month for unlimited Web space, unlimited email addresses and local rate technical support. Other ISPs like Clara (**www.clara.net**), Demon (**www.demon.net**) and Pipex (**www.pipex.net**) also offer excellent subscription services to small firms.

Broadening your horizons

Broadband is currently changing the face of eBusiness in the UK. The always-on connectivity it provides is around 10 times faster than a 56k modem and, although it is more expensive than a dial-up ISP, it is a fraction of the cost of a leased line.


freeserve
HOME | SITE MAP | EMAIL | CHAT | SEARCH | AUCTIONS | SHOPPING | SIGN UP ONLINE | HELP | MEMBER CENTRE
Sat, Aug 31
JOIN
Search
Go
All the Web
UK sites only
For businesses
Contents
AnyTime
Broadband
Compare Options
Contact Us
FAQs
Connectivity Top Tips
Retrieve Account
Channel Home
Join Freeserve
email this offer to a friend >>>
Freedom from internet call charges
Freeserve AnyTime for only £13.99
Join AnyTime for your chance to win £100,000
Click for details
one month free
Trial

Technical Support 09062 017017
Lines open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (Calls are charged at 50p per minute and may be monitored for training purposes)

Customer Services - support for non-technical queries only 0870 872 0099
Lines open 8am-10pm Monday to Sunday (Calls are charged at national rate and may be monitored for training purposes)

Freeserve **AnyTime** gives you the freedom to do whatever you want to do on the Internet for only £13.99 per month. There are no hidden extras and no additional Internet call charges.

- **AnyTime** allows you to enjoy the Internet as often as you like night and day, all for a simple flat rate monthly fee.
- You can start using the service just minutes after subscribing.
- No commitment beyond one month.
- You will receive a fortnightly email newsletter with exclusive offers and all the other great benefits of being a Freeserve member.
- Terms and Conditions apply.
- Registration is subject to acceptance by Freeserve.

Most ISPs will not let you use your Web space for business purposes – Freeserve is one that will

Of the various broadband services, ADSL (Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line) is probably best suited to small firms. Prices start at about £20 a month for home users, but a reliable service will cost you closer to £30. ClaraNet (**www.clara.net**), Pipex (**www.pipex.net**), PlusNet (**www.plus.net**) and BTopenworld (**www.btopenworld.com**) are all currently offering enticing deals for sole traders.

But ADSL has its drawbacks. First of all, not everyone can get it. You have to be within a 3-5km radius of your local exchange to qualify. Pay a visit to BTopenworld's linechecker at **www.btopenworld.com/linechecker** to find out if you can convert. Another caveat is that ADSL deals are always contended, which means you'll have to share your bandwidth with other users. Thankfully, most ISPs provide a contention ratio of 20:1 for business deals, as opposed to the standard 50:1 for home user accounts. More worrying, however, is the unreliability of ADSL. At present the service is prone to bouts of unexplained downtime and this is costly for a business requiring round-the-clock connectivity.

Presuming you are prepared to run the risk of unreliable access (and many firms are), one of the juiciest business ADSL deals we've seen is Abel's DIY Pro 500 (**www.abelalways.co.uk**) which costs just £64.63 per month (inclusive of VAT) and has a 20:1 contention ratio.

If you do decide to install ADSL in your office, don't forget that security is vital. With an

→

Take the highway

IF YOU'RE TEMPTED by ISDN, BT Together Home Highway is an attractive prospect. With a rock bottom rental price of £25 per month and the added benefit of not one but two 64k digital channels for Internet access, you can run a small business from your home with ease. With Home Highway you can use the phone and Net simultaneously, or combine both digital channels for even faster Net connections. The kit is also easy to install – if you have a computer with an USB port and suitable Operating System you can plug and play without forking out for extra equipment.

However, the set-up cost is not cheap, especially for non-BT customers. New connections cost £149.99, while existing BT users can plug and play for £74.99. Also, the minimum contract time is 12 months – so if your eBusiness doesn't take off, you could be left with a costly bill.

ISP experience

Bearwithlove.com

Name: Anna Freeman and Craig Haughton
Business: BearWithLove
Web Address: www.bearwithlove.com

"When we chose an ISP, we were looking for value for money more than anything else. Webfusion's price was by far the best we'd come across, at only £199 a year for 400Mb of Web space. As beginners, we found the Webfusion package extremely good, as they offered a lot of ready to use CGI scripts (FormMail/Mailing lists), so we could install them without any background knowledge."

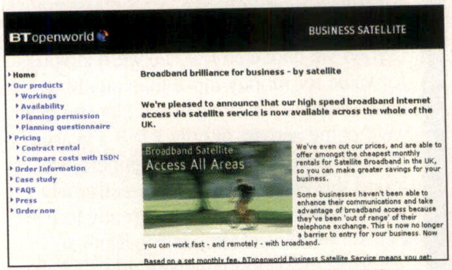
The BearWithLove team have found the ideal service provider for their business site

➔ always-on connection, the possibility of being hacked or falling victim to a virus increases dramatically. If you're intending to run a business with a broadband-enabled setup, a firewall is a must. This prevents anyone or anything gaining access to your PC, unless you give express permission for it to happen. McAfee's Desktop firewall is particularly suited for business users. Get more details on this essential tool from **www.mcafeeb2b.com**.

A tasty dish

If your firm is based in an area that can't receive ADSL or cable broadband, satellite is your best route to a faster connection. At the moment, many of the cheaper satellite services give you downloads of 256k a second – you can pay for more bandwidth, though. With many of these services, all you can do is download – other Internet activities have to be achieved through a standard dial-up connection. To pick up true satellite broadband, you'll have to splash out on a package like BTopenworld's Business Satellite service (**www.btopenworld.com/satellite**), which costs £70 a month, but the set-up costs of a shade under £900 are enough to make even the most hardened Net user baulk. Fortunately, the ISP has just announced a deal that will allow businesses to pay for the equipment over the course of a few years. See our news story on page 93 for more details

> **"BUSINESSES SEEKING AN ISP CAN BENEFIT FROM FALLING PRICES AND MORE CHOICE"**



Broadband brilliance for business - by satellite

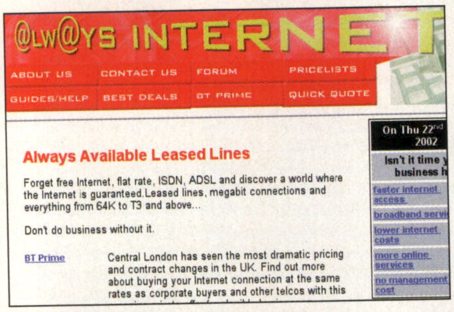
We're pleased to announce that our high speed broadband internet access via satellite service is now available across the whole of the UK.

We've even cut our prices, and are able to offer amongst the cheapest monthly rentals for Satellite Broadband in the UK, so you can make greater savings for your business.

Some businesses haven't been able to enhance their communications and take advantage of broadband access because they've been 'out of range' of their telephone exchange. This is now no longer a barrier to entry for your business. Now you can work fast - and remotely - with broadband.

Based on a set monthly fee, BTopenworld Business Satellite Service means you get:

Satellites are about more than getting TV channels – BT's Business Satellite service could be just what you need



Always Available Leased Lines

Forget free Internet, flat rate, ISDN, ADSL and discover a world where the Internet is guaranteed.Leased lines, megabit connections and everything from 64K to T3 and above...

Don't do business without it.

BT Prime — Central London has seen the most dramatic pricing and contract changes in the UK. Find out more about buying your Internet connection at the same rates as corporate buyers and other telcos with this

For the ultimate in always-on connections, treat your eBusiness to a leased line like those on offer at Always Internet

For larger businesses, or those with an unlimited budget, leased lines are the most common and reliable type of permanent high-speed Net connection. A direct connection between a network and an ISP, these are available in a range of capacities – the most popular, the T1, is around 27 times faster than a standard 56k modem. If you're looking to invest in a leased line, visit **www.always-available.com** – this ISP has packages that start at £200 per month for basic 64k pay-per use connections, to £400 per month for all-inclusive deals.

A certain symmetry

Symmetric DSL, or SDSL, was first launched back in April and experts believe it will eventually spell the end for leased line connections, as it is expected to work out at around half the price. It is also far more reliable than ADSL, suffering from none of the downtime mentioned above and coming with an enticing 5:1 contention ratio.

Easynet is planning an SDSL product – call the firm on 0845 333 3375 for a quote. Star (**www.star.net.uk**) is also offering SDSL – again, you need to phone for a quote (0161 266 1006). However, rollout is currently severely limited and prices are dropping all the time, so it may be worth holding back for a few months to see how the market for this fledgling technology pans out.

With a baffling array of good deals on the market, it should be easy to find a package that suits your firm. Before you rush into choosing an ISP, however, ask each ISP's sales people to put you in touch with some existing clients so that you can talk to them and get an independent opinion on the service. Also, think carefully before signing any long-term contracts you might regret.

ISP CHECKLIST:
Do's and don'ts

Do:

✓ Test the technical support line. If the ISP says it offers 24/7 support, give the helpline a call at midnight on a Sunday just to be doubly sure!

✓ Plan for the worst. If a hurricane destroys your ISP's servers, how long will it be until your site is up again? Don't be afraid to ask.

✓ Find out how the billing works before you sign anything. Most ISPs quote a monthly rate but some can bill you for up to a year in advance.

✓ Think of the future. Can your ISP support certain features on your site, such as scripting, if you want to add them? If so, will it cost you more?

✓ Shop around. There are literally hundreds of ISP deals out there, with new ones launching every week.

Don't:

✖ Forget about the set-up cost. These vary from ISP to ISP. See our Buyers' Guide on page 128 for details.

✖ Be afraid to ask questions. If you're new to eBusiness the jargon can be overwhelming – but any good ISP support line will be happy to explain how the service works in plain English.

✖ Just go by personal recommendation. An ISP that has worked well for a friend's personal Web page may not be suitable for a small firm.

✖ Be a tightwad. You want good value for money, but the cheapest option, especially free ISPs, may not be suitable for your outfit. Think big!

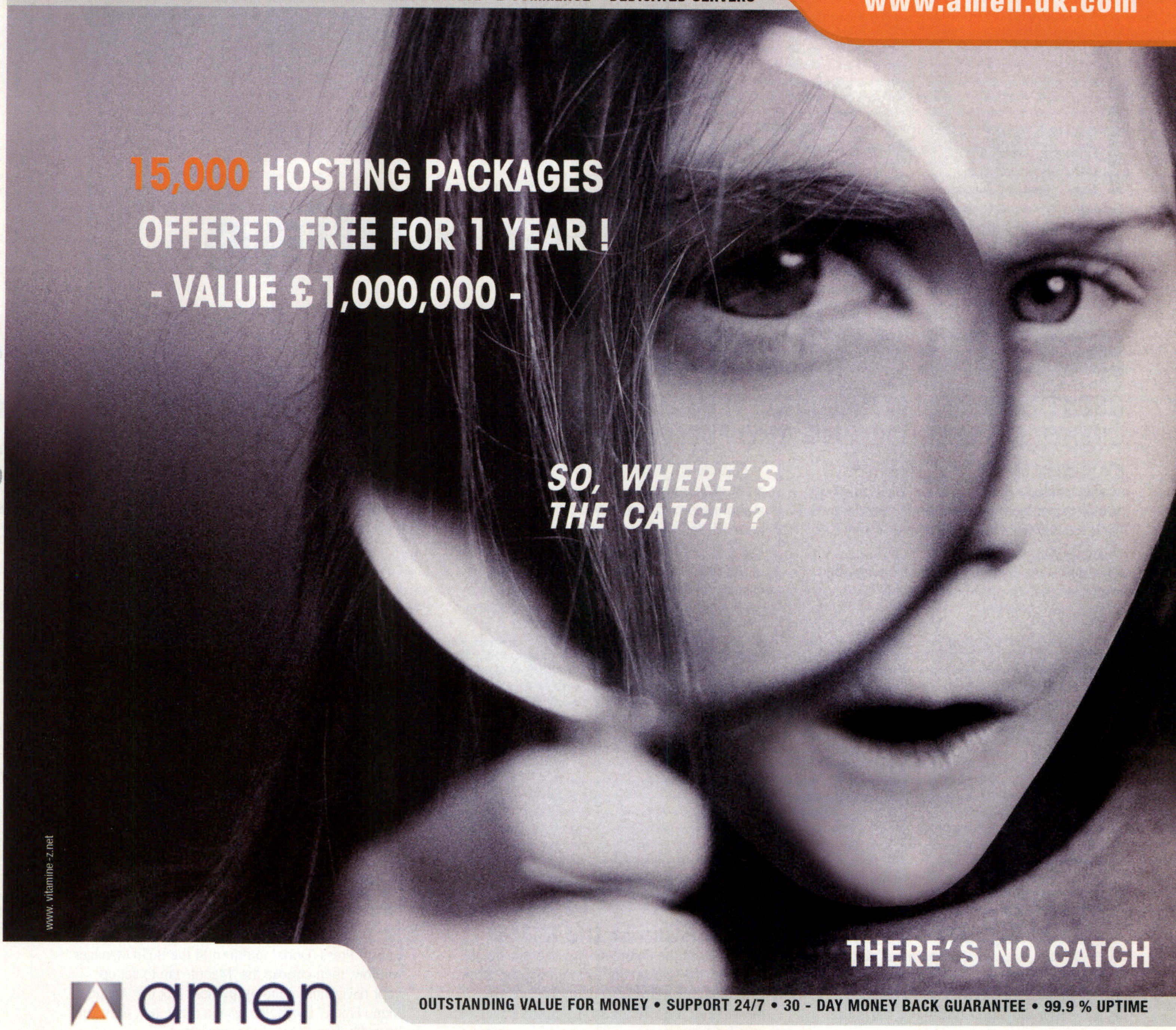
✖ Get fobbed off by vague or reluctant ISPs. If they can't give you the information you need, such as a list of people to reference, take your business elsewhere.

10 red hot business ISP deals

ISP	Web address	Type	Monthly fee	Web space
Pipex Xtreme Business 500	www.dsl.pipex.net	ADSL	£52.86	50Mb
Free Online Connect Biz	www.free-online.co.uk	Dial-up	£39.99	500Mb
Plus Net Connect Biz	www.plus.net	Dial-up	£39.99	500Mb
ZenADSL Office 1000	www.zenadsl.com	ADSL	£111.63	50Mb
Demon Express Plus	www.demon.net	ADSL	£28.99	20Mb
BTopenworld Business 500 Plug & Go	www.btopenworld.com	ADSL	£35.24	20Mb
Always Internet	www.always-available.com	Leased line	From £200pcm	Phone for details
Star	www.star.net.uk	SDSL	Varies	Varies
CharityDays Donate At Work Professional	www.charitydays.net	ADSL	£58.75	250Mb
Easynet	www.easynetdial.co.uk	Dial-up	£11.74	20Mb

DOMAIN NAMES • PERSONALISED EMAILS • WEB HOSTING •E-COMMERCE • DEDICATED SERVERS

NEW IN THE UK !
www.amen.uk.com



amen

OUTSTANDING VALUE FOR MONEY • SUPPORT 24/7 • 30 - DAY MONEY BACK GUARANTEE • 99.9 % UPTIME

ONE WEB PRO PACKAGE - WORTH £63.45 - **OFFERED FREE FOR 1 YEAR**
FOR EACH DOMAIN NAME REGISTERED OR TRANSFERRED

WEB PRO PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- 100 MB web space, FrontPage, private FTP and CGI-bin, unlimited data transfer, PHP4, Perl 5, MySQL, SSI extensions, detailed statistics, online control panel; hosted on Cobalt RAQ Servers
- 10 POP accounts, unlimited email aliases, mailing list autoresponder, Webmail
- **Customisable to your specific needs**

TO REGISTER YOUR DOMAIN NAME:

- Select a Web NAME package to register or transfer your domain name
- Web NAME also includes DNS services, MX configuration and NIC fees
- Register your .co.uk for £3 / year *or* .com,.net,.org for £6 / year
- **No setup fees, no hidden charges**

About amen

- Since 1999
- The fastest growing hosting company in FRANCE
- Verisign's largest European Gold Premium Partner
- 4,500 domain names registered each month
- 100,000 domain names registered
- 50,000 virtual web sites hosted
- Supported by 3 major bandwidth providers

CONDITIONS APPLY : Limited to 1 free Web PRO package per customer • Limited to UK residents • Your free site must be up and running within 30 days • Offer valid for the first 15,000 web sites hosted ▸ No ties, No transfer fees, No monthly fees, No catches, No banners, No Pop-ups, and absolutely no advertising on your site, No spamming, Data protection ▸ Our normal terms and conditions apply

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Sun Cobalt

sales@amen.uk.com
RESELLERS feel free to contact us at resellers@amen.uk.com

www.amen.uk.com
Secure online payment

REFER TO OUR GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS WWW.AMEN.UK.COM •PRICES EXCL. VAT AS OF 01/06/2002 FOR A ONE-OFF ANNUAL PAYMENT, (SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE). WEB NAME (.COM, .NET, .ORG, .INFO, .BIZ): £6/YEAR EXCL. VAT I.E. £7.05/YEAR INCL. VAT.

In brief:
Task: Design a Web store
Software I need: EROL 3 SmallStore Edition
Difficulty: Intermediate
Time I need: 2-3 hours

Practical Internet IT'S ON THE CD

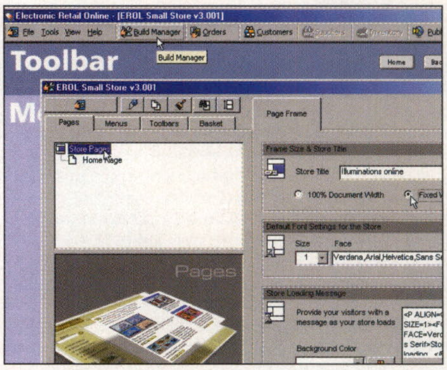
Design a better online store with EROL 3.0

USE THE FREE FULLY-WORKING VERSION OF EROL 3 ON THIS MONTH'S CD TO CREATE A GREAT-LOOKING AND FULLY FUNCTIONAL WEB SHOP

IF YOU WERE building a real shop, it's inconceivable to think you'd just pick out your interior décor from a box of dour selections. But this is exactly what happens with eCommerce software: you're more often than not constrained by rigid templates that inevitably produce banal, unoriginal and highly uninteresting interfaces.

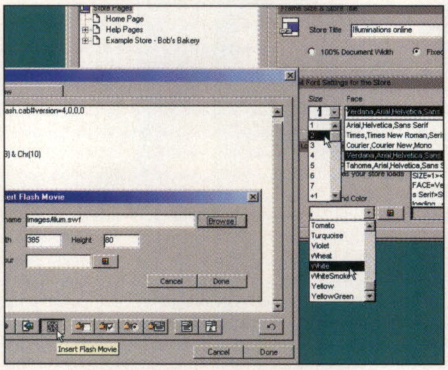
Fortunately, EROL is different. It's as close as an eCommerce program is likely to get to a Web authoring program. Every facet of your shop can be modelled in the way you want it, and easily, too. EROL does this by working on the principle of 'Items'. There are essentially three types: Display, Link and Product. The latter two are pretty self-explanatory. Display Items, on the other hand, can be absolutely anything you like. Images can be effortlessly dropped into a Display Item too, and then arranged in a layout with text, just by pushing a couple of buttons.

The version of EROL Smallstore Edition on the cover CD does have a limit of ten products, but it's ideal if you just want to dip your toe in the sea of eCommerce for the first time…


Electronic Retail Online - [EROL Small Store v3.001]
Build Manager
Orders
Customers
Toolbar
EROL Small Store v3.001
Pages
Menus
Toolbars
Basket
Page Frame
Store Pages
Home Page
Frame Size & Store Title
Store Title
Illuminations online
100% Document Width
Fixed Width
Default Font Settings for the Store
Size
Face
Verdana,Arial,Helvetica,Sans Serif
Store Loading Message
Provide your visitors with a message as your store loads
Background Color

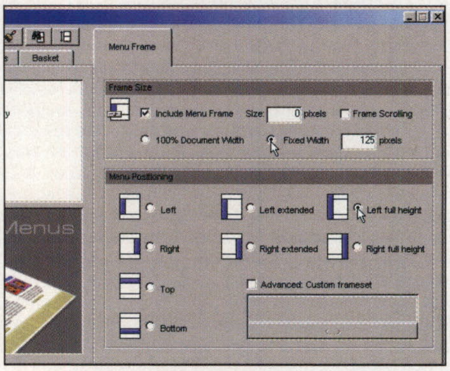
1 Starting out

To start, click on 'Build Manager' to open EROL's 'Build Manager'. The first thing to do is to set up each frame. Select 'Store Pages' and enter a name for your shop. Underneath you can choose whether the main frame has a fixed or variable width.


Store Pages
Home Page
Help Pages
Example Store - Bob's Bakery
Store Title
Illuminations online
100% Document Width
Default Font Settings for the Store
Size
Face
Insert Flash Movie
Browse
Height
Cancel
Done
Tomato
Turquoise
Violet
Wheat
White
WhiteSmoke
Yellow
YellowGreen

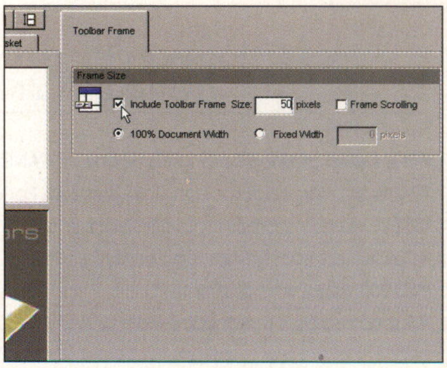
2 Customise the HTML

Using the controls below, set the default font size, the background colour for your shop, and then click 'HTML' to edit the welcome message. In the HTML editor, you can create your own loading message, and even add a picture.


Menu Frame
Basket
Frame Size
Include Menu Frame
Size
0 pixels
Frame Scrolling
100% Document Width
Fixed Width
125 pixels
Menu Positioning
Left
Right
Top
Bottom
Left extended
Right extended
Left full height
Right full height
Advanced: Custom frameset

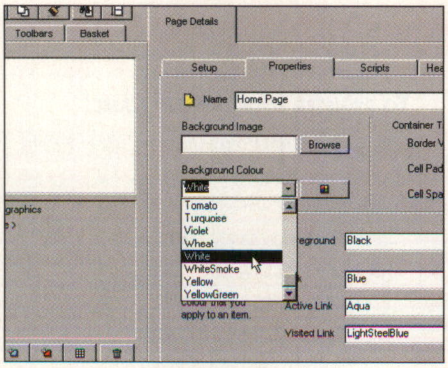
3 It's on the menu

Press 'Done' to return to the Build Manager window, then choose the 'Menus' tab to set up your navigation menu properties. Tick the 'Include Menu Frame' box if you want a menu bar, then set its width. Use the icons to position it.


Toolbar Frame
Frame Size
Include Toolbar Frame
Size
50 pixels
Frame Scrolling
100% Document Width
Fixed Width
pixels

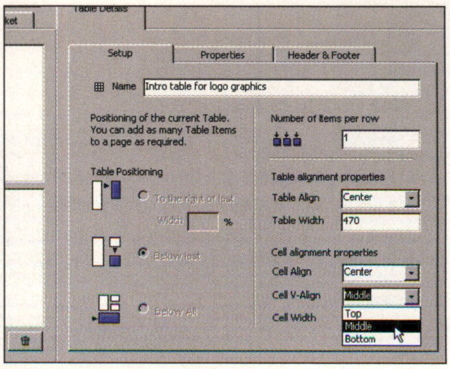
4 Optional toolbars

Now set up the toolbar. This section is where EROL keeps its function buttons, such as one to access the shopping basket. Select its tab and tick the appropriate box if you want to feature a toolbar, and enter its height in 'Frame Size'.


Toolbars
Basket
Page Details
Setup
Properties
Scripts
Name
Home Page
Background Image
Browse
Background Colour
White
Tomato
Turquoise
Violet
Wheat
White
WhiteSmoke
Yellow
YellowGreen
Black
Blue
Active Link
Aqua
Visited Link
LightSteelBlue
Container
Cell Pad
Cell Spa

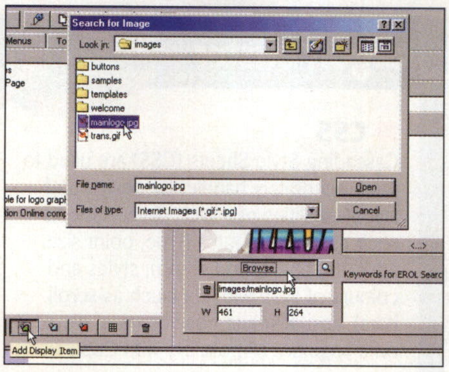
5 Page properties

Go back to the 'Pages' section, and select 'Home Page'. To adjust the page's appearance, select the 'Properties' tab. Here you can set the background colour or picture, text colours, and global settings for any table layouts you use.


Setup
Properties
Header & Footer
Name
Intro table for logo graphics
Positioning of the current Table. You can add as many Table Items to a page as required.
Table Positioning
Number of Items per row
1
Table alignment properties
Table Align
Center
Table Width
470
Cell alignment properties
Cell Align
Center
Cell V-Align
Middle
Cell Width
Top
Middle
Bottom

6 Manage table layouts

You can now start putting together your home page. Click the 'Table layout' icon in the bottom panel, and select the 'Setup' tab. Use the settings to alter the layout table's parameters: its width, number of rows, and its own unique name.



Search for Image

File name: mainlogo.jpg

Files of type: Internet Images (*.gif;*.jpg)

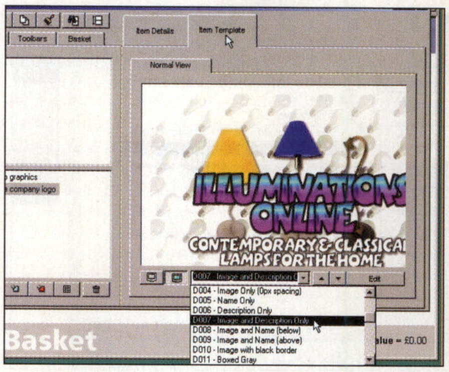
images/mainlogo.jpg

W 461 H 264

Look in: images
buttons
samples
templates
welcome
mainlogo.jpg
trans.gif
Open
Cancel
Browse
Keywords for EROL Search
Add Display Item

7 Add images

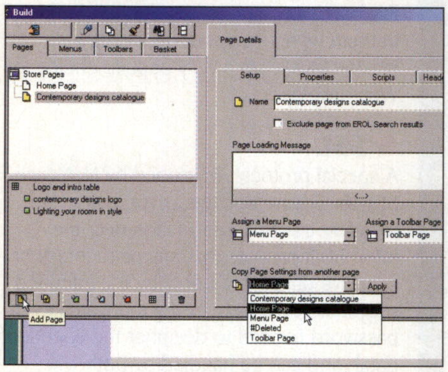
To add a logo graphic to the opening page, press 'Add Display Item'. In the right-hand panel, press 'Browse' to open your image. Type a quick hello into the 'Description' panel if you like, then enter a label for this Item into the 'Name' box.



Toolbars
Basket
Item Details
Item Template
Normal View
ILLUMINATIONS ONLINE
CONTEMPORARY & CLASSICAL LAMPS FOR THE HOME
D007 - Image and Description O
D004 - Image Only (0px spacing)
D005 - Name Only
D006 - Description Only
D007 - Image and Description Only
D008 - Image and Name (below)
D009 - Image and Name (above)
D010 - Image with black border
D011 - Boxed Gray
Edit
Basket
alue = £0.00

8 Display the item

EROL's 'Item Templates' determine which parts of the Item's details are visible, and how they are laid out on the page. To choose a layout, click 'Item Template' and choose one from the pull-down menu. A preview will appear.



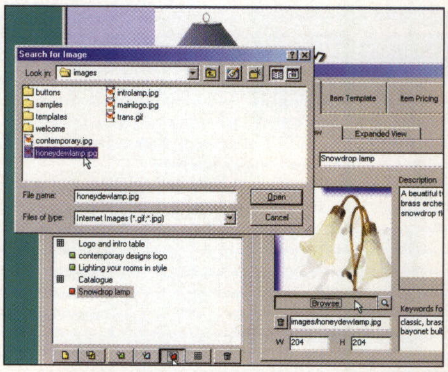
Name: Contemporary designs catalogue

☐ Exclude page from EROL Search results

Build
Pages
Menus
Toolbars
Basket
Store Pages
Home Page
Contemporary designs catalogue
Logo and intro table
contemporary designs logo
Lighting your rooms in style
Page Details
Setup
Properties
Scripts
Page Loading Message
Assign a Menu Page
Menu Page
Assign a Toolbar Page
Toolbar Page
Copy Page Settings from another page
Home Page
Apply
Contemporary designs catalogue
Home Page
Menu Page
#Deleted
Toolbar Page
Add Page

9 New product page

Once you've finished adding the elements, you can set about creating the first product page. Click 'Add Page', and set up this new page as before. Alternatively, choose 'Home Page' from the 'Copy Page Settings…' pull-down menu.



Search for Image

File name: honeydewlamp.jpg

Files of type: Internet Images (*.gif;*.jpg)

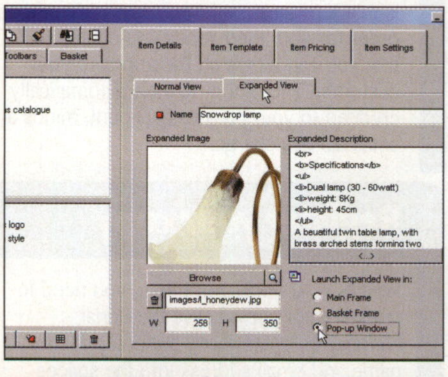
images/honeydewlamp.jpg

W 204 H 204

Look in: images
buttons
samples
templates
welcome
contemporary.jpg
honeydewlamp.jpg
introlamp.jpg
mainlogo.jpg
trans.gif
Open
Cancel
Logo and intro table
contemporary designs logo
Lighting your rooms in style
Catalogue
Snowdrop lamp
Item Template
Item Pricing
Expanded View
Snowdrop lamp
Description
Browse
Keywords fo

10 Load the shelves

When you're ready, click 'Add Product Item' to insert your first catalogue item. Enter its name and, as before, click 'Browse' to load the product's photo. Add a description before adding some key words for the EROL search engine.



Name: Snowdrop lamp

Expanded Description:

```
<br>
<b>Specifications</b>
<ul>
<li>Dual lamp (30 - 60watt)
<li>weight: 6Kg
<li>height: 45cm
</ul>
A beuatiful twin table lamp, with
brass arched stems formina two
```

images/l_honeydew.jpg

W 258 H 350

Launch Expanded View in:

○ Main Frame

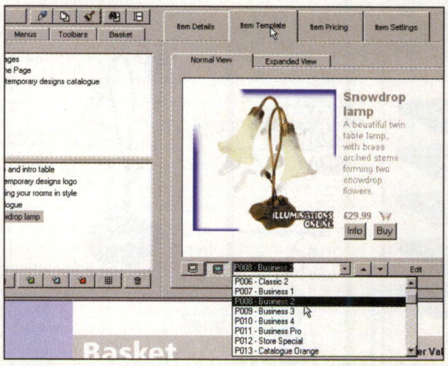
○ Basket Frame

● Pop-up Window

Toolbars
Basket
Item Details
Item Template
Item Pricing
Item Settings
Normal View
Expanded View
Expanded Image
Browse

11 More info, more pictures

Some products will merit a greater deal of detail, and EROL can happily oblige. Click on the 'Expanded View' tab to insert a larger or alternative image, write more about the product, or just get the browser to open this detail in a separate window.



Menus
Toolbars
Basket
Item Details
Item Template
Item Pricing
Item Settings
Normal View
Expanded View
Snowdrop lamp
£29.99
Info
Buy
P008 - Business 2
P006 - Classic 2
P007 - Business 1
P008 - Business 2
P009 - Business 3
P010 - Business 4
P011 - Business Pro
P012 - Store Special
P013 - Catalogue Orange
Edit
Basket

12 All in the presentation

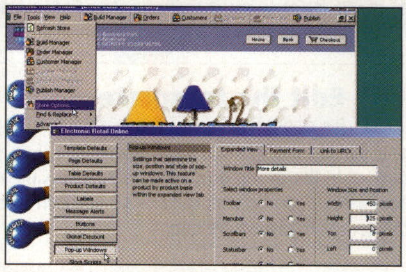
As with the Display Items, your product information will be formatted as per one of the templates, although these also contain the all-important 'Buy' buttons. Click on the 'Item Template' tab and choose one from the menu.

→

HOW TO…

Configure other elements

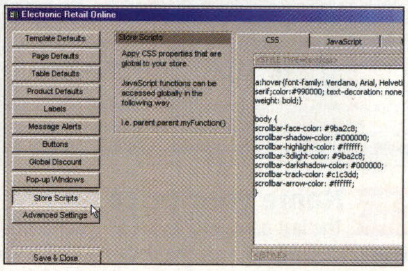
THIS TUTORIAL CONCENTRATES mainly on the design elements of EROL. However, there are many important parts, mainly geared towards the administrative side of the business. Built-in managers are all included, as well as tools to change the default settings for many design elements, which can make light work of putting together your Web site.



Build Manager
Orders
Customers
Store Options
Electronic Retail Online
Template Defaults
Page Defaults
Table Defaults
Product Defaults
Labels
Message Alerts
Buttons
Global Discount
Pop-up Windows
Store Scripts
Expanded View
Payment Form
Links to URL's

1 Global settings

Select 'Store Options…' from the 'Tools' menu to open the global settings for your shop. In here you can set default parameters, including the dimensions and attributes of the pop-up windows it creates.



Store Scripts

Appy CSS properties that are global to your store.

JavaScript functions can be accessed globally in the following way.

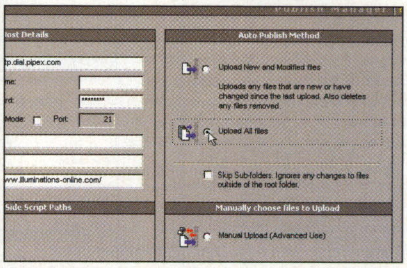
i.e. parent.parent.myFunction()

```
<STYLE TYPE=text/css>

a:hover{font-family: Verdana, Arial, Helveti
serif;color:#990000; text-decoration: none;
weight: bold;}

body {
scrollbar-face-color: #9ba2c8;
scrollbar-shadow-color: #000000;
scrollbar-highlight-color: #ffffff;
scrollbar-3dlight-color: #9ba2c8;
scrollbar-darkshadow-color: #000000;
scrollbar-track-color: #c1c3dd;
scrollbar-arrow-color: #ffffff;
}
</STYLE>
```

Electronic Retail Online
Template Defaults
Page Defaults
Table Defaults
Product Defaults
Labels
Message Alerts
Buttons
Global Discount
Pop-up Windows
Store Scripts
Advanced Settings
Save & Close
CSS
JavaScript

2 A new style

You can use CSS to specify text and other object formatting. Click on 'Store Scripts' and select the 'CSS' tab. All you need to do is to write your style sheet definitions in here for them to affect all pages.



Upload New and Modified files: Uploads any files that are new or have changed since the last upload. Also deletes any files removed.

Upload All files

☐ Skip Sub-folders: Ignores any changes to files outside of the root folder.

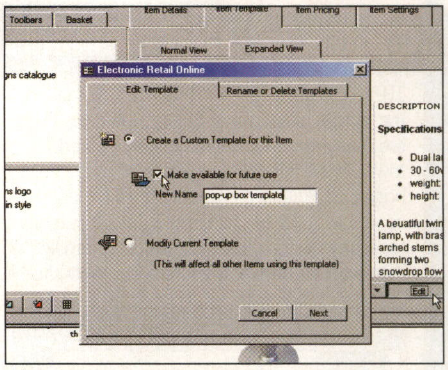
Manual Upload (Advanced Use)

Publish Manager
Host Details
tp.dial.pipex.com
Port 21
www.illuminations-online.com/
Side Script Paths
Auto Publish Method
Manually choose files to Upload

3 Put it online

When your shop's ready to go online, use EROL's built-in 'Publish Manager' to upload the site. To access it, press 'Publish' on the main toolbar. After setting up your FTP details, press 'Next' to upload.

→


Toolbars
Basket
Item Details
Item Template
Item Pricing
Item Settings
Normal View
Expanded View
Edit Template
Rename or Delete Templates
Cancel
Next
Edit

Electronic Retail Online

● Create a Custom Template for this Item

☑ Make available for future use

New Name: pop-up box template

○ Modify Current Template
(This will affect all other Items using this template)

13 Edit the template

It's possible to adapt the templates. Choose one that almost fits the bill, and press the 'Edit' button. In the dialog box, select 'Create a Custom Template…', and check the box so you can use this template elsewhere later.

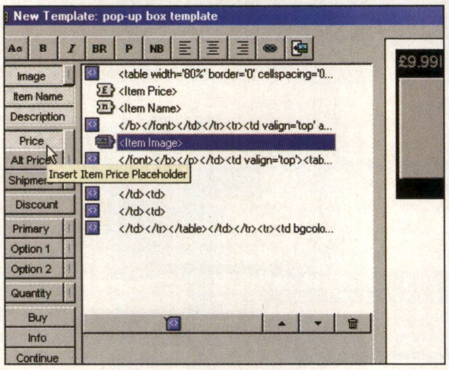


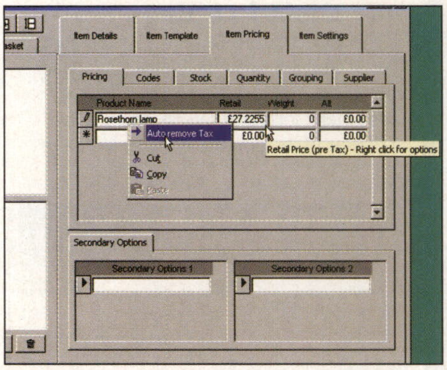
Image
Item Name
Description
Price
Alt Prices
Shipment
Discount
Primary
Option 1
Option 2
Quantity
Buy
Info
Continue
Insert Item Price Placeholder
£9.99

New Template: pop-up box template

```
<table width='80%' border='0' cellspacing='0...
<Item Price>
<Item Name>
</b></font></td></tr><tr><td valign='top' a...
<Item Image>
</font></b></p></td><td valign='top'><tab...
</td><td>
</td><td>
</td></tr></table></td></tr><tr><td bgcolo...
```

14 Have it your own way

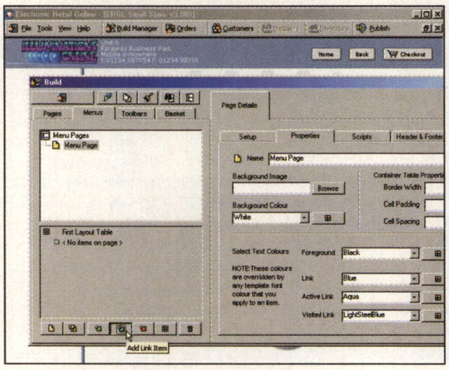
Press 'Next' to open the Template Editor. On the left-hand side are the preset placeholders present in the template. Click the corresponding button to enable or disable its placeholder. You can also edit the HTML directly here, too.


Item Details
Item Template
Item Pricing
Item Settings
Pricing
Codes
Stock
Quantity
Grouping
Supplier
Auto remove Tax
Cut
Copy
Paste
Retail Price (pre Tax) - Right click for options
Secondary Options
Secondary Options 1
Secondary Options 2

Product Name	Retail	Weight	Alt
Rosethorn lamp	£27.2255	0	£0.00
	£0.00	0	£0.00

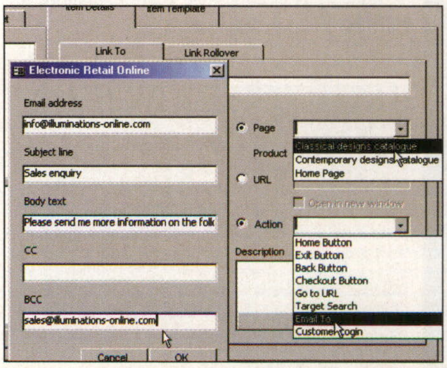
15 Name your price

The last parameter to set for your product is its price (and any ordering details necessary to your business). Click on the 'Item Pricing' tab, and enter it in here (right-click the price to automatically deduct tax), then go to your next product.


Electronic Retail Online
File
Tools
View
Help
Build Manager
Orders
Customers
Publish
Home
Back
Checkout
Build
Pages
Menus
Toolbars
Basket
Menu Pages
Menu Page
Page Details
Setup
Properties
Scripts
Header & Footer
Name
Menu Page
Background Image
Browse
Background Colour
White
Select Text Colours
Foreground
Black
Link
Blue
Active Link
Aqua
Visited Link
LightSteelBlue
Container Table Properties
Border Width
Cell Padding
Cell Spacing
First Layout Table
< No items on page >
Add Link Item

16 Build your menu

Now that you've finished adding your products and pages, you can complete your menu bar. Click the 'Menus' tab, and select the 'Menu Page' icon. Set up the page and Layout Table as before, only this time add a 'Link Item' instead.


Item Details
Item Template
Link To
Link Rollover
Electronic Retail Online
Page
Product
URL
Open in new window
Action
Description
Classical designs catalogue
Contemporary designs catalogue
Home Page
Home Button
Exit Button
Back Button
Checkout Button
Go to URL
Target Search
Email To
Customer Login
Cancel
OK

Email address: info@illuminations-online.com

Subject line: Sales enquiry

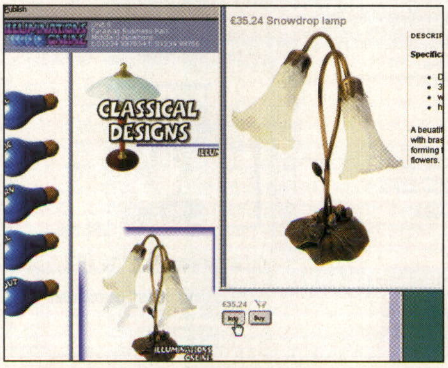
Body text: Please send me more information on the folk

CC:

BCC: sales@illuminations-online.com

17 Linking to a destination

A link can be made to an individual product, page, or URL. Use the radio buttons and pull-down menus in the right-hand panel to make your choice. Alternatively, pick from a list of pre-configured actions, one of which includes email.


Publish
ILLUMINATIONS ONLINE
£35.24 Snowdrop lamp
CLASSICAL DESIGNS
DESCRIPTION
Specifications
A beautiful twin lamp, with brass forming two flowers.
£35.24
Info
Buy

18 Buttons and roll-overs

Whatever action you choose, press 'Browse' to load a button graphic to complete your link (click on 'Link Rollover' to open a roll-over version). Repeat this for all links and finally press the 'Preview Changes' button to see your efforts.

Jargon buster

CSS

Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) are used to more accurately handle the design and layout qualities of a Web page. Aspects such as font attributes (type, point size, attribute, colour and so on), styles and colours of Web widgets (such as scroll bars), and absolute positioning of elements on a page are all possible with CSS.

JavaScript

A programming language conjured up by the folks at Netscape. Its primary use is on the Web, to create interactive elements on sites: adding date stamps and clocks, opening new windows, and animating buttons. Both Netscape and Internet Explorer can display sites with JavaScript in them without any need for plug-ins, making JavaScript a very popular choice for Web developers.

SSL

A special protocol developed by Netscape, SSL (or Secure Sockets Layer) is used to privately transmit information over the Internet. It ensures that any confidential or sensitive data is read only by the intended recipient. It works by using a private key (a password needed to decipher the encoded data), and can be handled by both Netscape Navigator and Internet Explorer browsers. Normally, pages encrypted with SSL protection begin with 'https://' to denote that they're secure.

Payment provider

A company set up to handle online credit card transactions on your behalf. The idea is that it processes the payment side of the order for you, then sends you details so that you can despatch the goods to your customer. The money is then automatically credited to your business account, minus a small service charge.

Register your copy

WHEN YOU FIRST run EROL, you need to register your copy. Leave the Serial Number as 'smallstore', but enter your name and email address into the spaces provided, then press the 'Register Now' button. You'll then connect to the Net, and it'll register your copy automatically. When this is complete, a dialog box will appear to confirm. You can now press 'Enter' to start building your shop.

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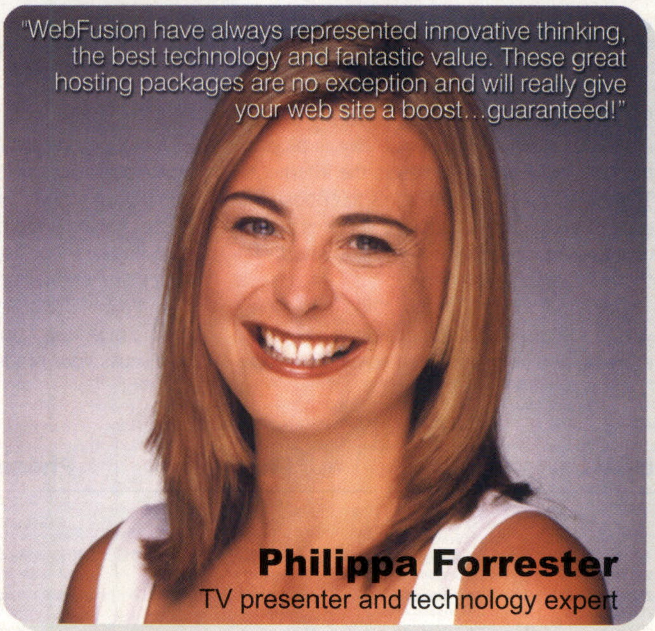
- Virtual Control Panel 2002 • Graphical Access Statistics
- 100 POP3 E-mail Boxes • Unlimited E-mail Forwarding
- Unlimited Mailing Lists • Unlimited Autoresponders
- Full CGI-BIN • 5GB Data Transfer per Month
- Free Use of Secure Server • Miva Scripting Language
- MS FrontPage Extensions • Active Server Pages
- MySQL Database • PHP4 Scripting Language
- RealAudio and MP3 • SSH Telnet Access
- Detailed On-line Help • Regular Server Backups
- Additional Options Available • Money Back Guarantee*
- Same Hour Set-up

E-Commerce Only:

- Shopping Cart Solution pre-installed, fully integrated with secure server and ready to run



"WebFusion have always represented innovative thinking, the best technology and fantastic value. These great hosting packages are no exception and will really give your web site a boost...guaranteed!"

Philippa Forrester
TV presenter and technology expert

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The Virtual Control Panel 2002 (VCP) allows you to automatically control your web site without any knowledge of programming! You can manage your files on-line, install discussion boards and guest books in seconds, take complete control of all your e-mail and password-protect directories. You can even install FrontPage, view web statistics and bandwidth usage figures and read your e-mail on-line if you need to!

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PART OF THE Host Europe GROUP

Pick the perfect Web hosting deal

USE THIS AT-A-GLANCE GUIDE TO SELECT THE PERFECT HOME FOR YOUR BUSINESS OR ECOMMERCE WEB SITE

SELECTING A WEB hosting company to look after your business is just as tricky as picking the right ISP to connect you to the Internet. There's a baffling array of deals to choose from, each offering slightly different services and each charging slightly different prices. In short, there's no simple answer.

Our aim in compiling this guide is to allow you to see the different types of packages available and help you glean some idea of the costs you're likely to face. While we haven't included every single deal offered by the firms included (we could probably fill the whole of YBO with them) we have listed the products that we think are most relevant to our readers.

To use these listings effectively we recommend using the information below to pick out a handful of firms that cater for your needs. The next step is to contact each directly to discuss your requirements further. ■

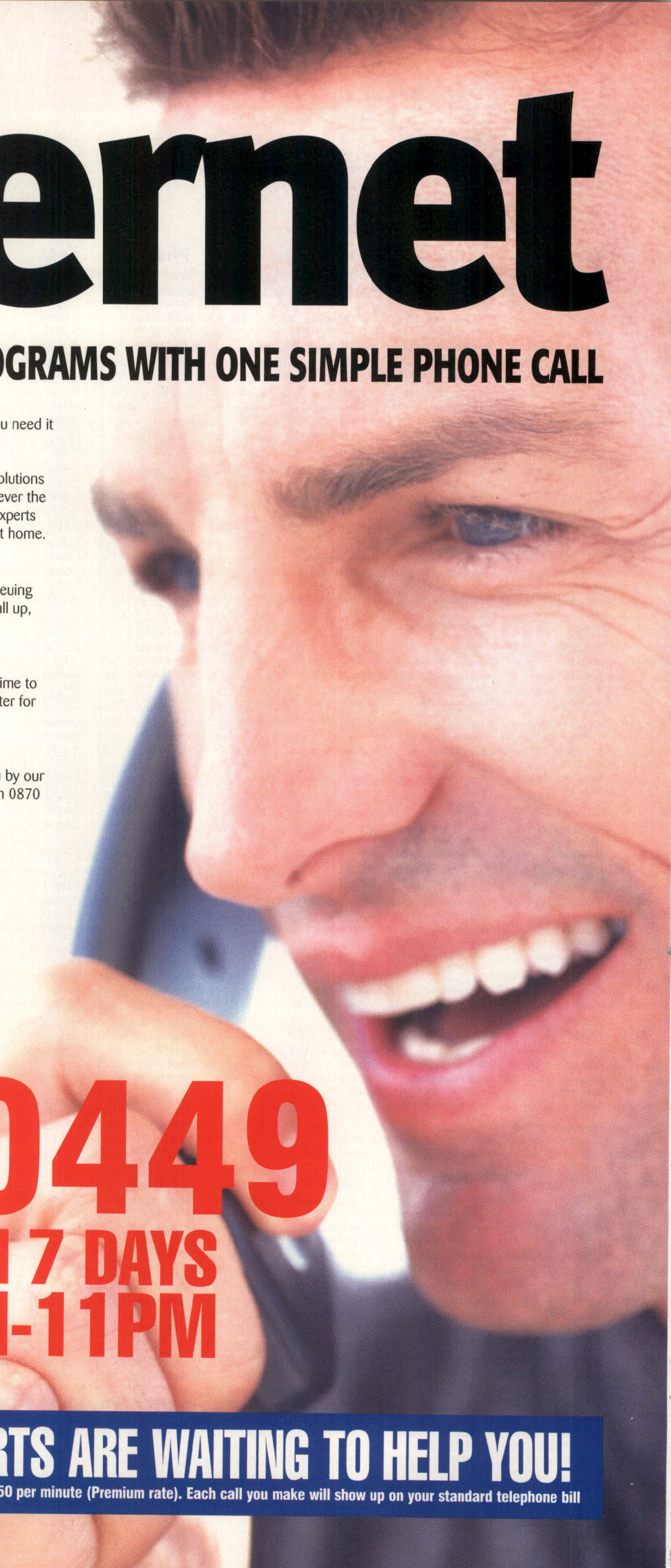
Keeping up-to-date

WHILE WE TRY and ensure that all the information in our listings is up to date, the occasional error does creep through. If you would like to update your current details, drop an email to **pi@paragon.co.uk** with the information you would like changed.

NAME	URL	Package	Phone	Cost	Web space	POP3 Accounts	FrontPage Extensions	Phone Support
1&1 Internet	www.oneandone.co.uk	Starters	0845 6012 586	£17.88	Yes	15	No	Yes
1&1 Internet	www.oneandone.co.uk	Home	0845 6012 586	£59.88	100Mb	50	No	Yes
1&1 Internet	www.oneandone.co.uk	Business	0845 6012 586	£107.88	300Mb	200	Yes	Yes
1&1 Internet	www.oneandone.co.uk	Professionals	0845 6012 586	£203.88	800Mb	500	Yes	Yes
2020Media	www.2020media.com	Standard	0870 739 2020	£100.00	25Mb	3	Yes	Yes
2020Media	www.2020media.com	PHP	0870 739 2020	£150.00	100Mb	3	No	Yes
2020Media	www.2020media.com	Cold Fusion	0870 739 2020	£250.00	100Mb	3	No	Yes
2020Media	www.2020media.com	Java	0870 739 2020	£300.00	100Mb	3	No	Yes
9NetAvenue	www.9netave.uk.net	9Net ONE Plan	0800 328 9450	£239.40	25Mb	10	No	Yes
Active ISP	www.activeisp.co.uk	Small Business	0870 7304000	£143.40	35Mb	10	Yes	Yes
AMEN hosting	www.amen.uk.com	promo WebPRO	None	£6	100Mb	10	Yes	No
AMEN hosting	www.amen.uk.com	regular WebPRO	None	£54	100Mb	10	Yes	No
AQ Limited	www.a-q.co.uk	10Mb	08707 449227	£70.00	10Mb	1	No	No
AQ Limited	www.a-q.co.uk	20Mb	08707 449227	£122.00	20Mb	5	No	No
AQ Limited	www.a-q.co.uk	50Mb	08707 449227	£190.00	50Mb	5	No	No
A Web Company	www.awebcompany.net	5Mb Webspace	020 8399 6675	£39.99	5Mb	1	No	No
A Web Company	www.awebcompany.net	10Mb Webspace	020 8399 6675	£59.99	10Mb	3	No	No
A Web Company	www.awebcompany.net	25Mb Webspace	020 8399 6675	£99.99	25Mb	5	No	No
A Web Company	www.awebcompany.net	50Mb Webspace	020 8399 6675	£149.99	50MB	7	No	No
A Web Company	www.awebcompany.net	100Mb Webspace	020 8399 6675	£199.99	100Mb	10	No	Yes
A Web Company	www.awebcompany.net	250Mb Web space	020 8399 6675	£349.99	250Mb	15	No	Yes
A Web Company	www.awebcompany.net	500Mb Webspace	020 8399 6675	£499.99	500Mb	20	No	Yes
Business Serve	www.businessserve.co.uk	Business Serve Pro	08707 555565	£99.95	25Mb	5	Yes	Yes
Business Serve	www.businessserve.co.uk	Business Serve Premier	08707 555565	£199.95	50Mb	10	Yes	Yes
Business Serve	www.businessserve.co.uk	Business Serve Enterprise	08707 555565	£349.95	100Mb	20	Yes	Yes
Business Serve	www.businessserve.co.uk	Business Serve Enterprise NT	08707 555565	£399.95	100Mb	20	Yes	Yes
Clara.net	www.clara.net	clarahost Light	0845 355 1000	£29.99	10Mb	10	No	No
Clara.net	www.clara.net	clarahost Starter	0845 355 1000	£59.99	50Mb	20	Yes	No
Clara.net	www.clara.net	clarahost Soho	0845 355 1000	£99.00	100Mb	50	Yes	Yes
Clara.net	www.clara.net	clarahost Enterprise	0845 355 1000	£199.00	200Mb	100	Yes	Yes
Clara.net	www.clara.net	clarahost Professional	0845 355 1000	£399.00	500Mb	200	Yes	Yes
Clara.net	www.clara.net	clarahost Advanced	0845 355 1000	£699.00	500Mb	200	Yes	Yes
Compila	www.compila.com	Value	020 8289 3039	£12.00	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Compila	www.compila.com	Commercial	020 8289 3039	£48.00	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Compila	www.compila.com	Commercial	020 8289 3039	£48.00	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Don Host	www.donhost.co.uk	Enterprise Plan	0870 7414151	£89.99	100Mb	20	Yes	Yes
Don Host	www.donhost.co.uk	Commerce Plan	0870 7414151	£179.99	250Mb	50	Yes	Yes
Bargain Host	wwww.bargainhost.co.uk	Budget Host	None	£12.99	35Mb	1	No	No
Bargain Host	wwww.bargainhost.co.uk	Budget Host Pro	None	£22.99	50Mb	Unlimited	Yes	No
Fast Hosts	www.fasthosts.co.uk	Home User	01452 541260	£60.00	200Mb	Unlimited	Yes	Yes
Fast Hosts	www.fasthosts.co.uk	Business User	01452 541260	£199.00	200Mb	Unlimited	Yes	Yes
Freezone	www.freezone.co.uk	Freezone Value	0845 1170366	£71.40	30Mb	1	Yes	Yes
Freezone	www.freezone.co.uk	Freezone Classic Unix	0845 1170366	£119.40	50Mb	10	Yes	Yes
Freezone	www.freezone.co.uk	Freezone Classic NT	0845 1170366	£119.40	50Mb	10	Yes	Yes
Ghoulnet	www.ghoulnet.co.uk	Business Web	0800 0747581	£69.00	100Mb	50	Yes	No
Griffin Internet	www.griffin.net.uk	Windows 2000 Webspace	0870 0007100	£199	150Mb	100	Yes	Yes
Iarna	www.iarna.co.uk	Professional	0800 1801880	£89.00	200Mb	20	Yes	Yes
Iarna	www.iarna.co.uk	Business	0800 1801880	£179.00	400Mb	40	Yes	Yes

Web host listings

NAME	URL	Package	Phone	Cost	Web space	POP3 Accounts	FrontPage Extensions	Phone Support
Inweb Networks	www.inweb.co.uk	Unix Business Package + Free DialUp	08000 612 222	£200.00 pa	100MB	One	Yes	Yes
Inweb Networks	www.inweb.co.uk	NT Business Package + Free Dial Up	08000 612 222	£400 pa	50MB	One	Yes	Yes
Iomart	www.iomart.com	NT Core Hosting 30	0870 0500303	£179.88	30Mb	10	Yes	Yes
Iomart	www.iomart.com	NT Core Hosting 50	0870 0500303	£239.88	50Mb	10	Yes	Yes
Iomart	www.iomart.com	NT Core Hosting 75	0870 0500303	£359.88	75Mb	10	Yes	Yes
Iomart	www.iomart.com	NT Core Hosting 100	0870 0500303	£1199.88	100Mb	10	Yes	Yes
Joshua Internet	www.joshuainternet.com	Starter	None	£46.41	35Mb	10	Yes	No
Joshua Internet	www.joshuainternet.com	Standard	None	£92.82	80Mb	25	Yes	No
Joshua Internet	www.joshuainternet.com	Professional	None	£185.64	200Mb	60	Yes	No
KCDnet	www.kcdnet.com	Personal	None	£29.99	50Mb	1	Yes	No
KCDnet	www.kcdnet.com	Advanced	None	£89.99	100Mb	4	Yes	No
KCDnet	www.kcdnet.com	Executive	None	£159.99	200Mb	10	Yes	No
Magic Moments	www.magic-moments.com	Magic Entry	0115 9170000	£99.95	250MB	1	No	Yes
Magic Moments	www.magic-moments.com	Magic Pro	0115 9170000	£199.95	750Mb	100	Yes	Yes
Magic Moments	www.magic-moments.com	Magic Business	0115 9170000	£199	250Mb	100	Yes	Yes
Magic Moments	www.magic-moments.com	Magic Business eCommerce	0115 9170000	£499	250Mb	100	Yes	Yes
Mailbox	www.mailbox.net.uk	WebStandard	0845 177345	£100	25Mb	0	Yes	Yes
Mailbox	www.mailbox.net.uk	WebGold	0845 177345	£200	50Mb	15	Yes	Yes
Mailbox	www.mailbox.net.uk	WebPro	0845 177345	£300	25Mb	25	Yes	Yes
Mailbox	www.mailbox.net.uk	WebSecure	0845 177345	£250	25Mb	0	Yes	Yes
Metronet	www.metronet.co.uk	Toe in the water	020 8426 4446	£49.00	None	None	Yes	Yes
Metronet	www.metronet.co.uk	Going for a paddle	020 8426 4446	£139.00	10Mb	5	Yes	Yes
Metronet	www.metronet.co.uk	Dive, dive, dive	020 8426 4446	£287.00	10Mb	5	Yes	Yes
Namehog	www.namehog.net	Small Business	0870 9059444	£42.00	100Mb	20	Yes	Yes
Namehog	www.namehog.net	Business Pro	0870 9059444	£60.00	200Mb	25	Yes	Yes
NetBenefit	www.netbenefit.com	Shared Hosting Package	0800 0724696	£180.00	100Mb	None	Yes	Yes
Netcetera	www.inetc.net	EASYwebs	0800 2987214	£125.00	50Mb	Unlimited	Yes	Yes
Netcetera	www.inetc.net	Gold	0800 2987214	£250.00	30Mb	Unlimited	Yes	Yes
Netcetera	www.inetc.net	Diamond	0800 2987214	£450.00	50Mb	Unlimited	Yes	Yes
NetNation	www.netnation.co.uk	Web Wizard	0800 0283639	£83.40	10Mb	None	No	No
NetNation	www.netnation.co.uk	Starter	0800 0283639	£131.40	20Mb	1	Yes	No
NetNation	www.netnation.co.uk	Pro	0800 0283639	£191.40	150Mb	20	Yes	No
NetNation	www.netnation.co.uk	Power	0800 0283639	£419.40	300Mb	40	Yes	No
Netway	www.netway.co.uk	Small to medium business	07020 939842	£199.00	20Mb	1	Yes	Yes
OrbitalNet	www.orbital.net	Pack 2	0800 3891397	£129.00	50Mb	5	Yes	Yes
OrbitalNet	www.orbital.net	Pack 3	0800 3891397	£249.00	50Mb	5	Yes	Yes
OrbitalNet	www.orbital.net	Pack 4	0800 3891397	£299.00	100Mb	10	Yes	Yes
OrbitalNet	www.orbital.net	Pack 5	0800 3891397	£3.99	200Mb	20	Yes	Yes
PMHIS.Net	www.pmhis.net	Web+	None	£60.00	Unlimited	Unlimited	Yes	No
Positive Internet Company	www.positive-internet.com	Shared Hosting	0800 316006	£250.00	120Mb	Unlimited	Yes	Yes
Powas Park	www.powaspark.net	Valuespace	0870 7303170	£49.99	100Mb	50	No	Yes
Powas Park	www.powaspark.net	Optisapce	0870 7303170	£99.99	IGb	Unlimited	Yes	Yes
Powas Park	www.powaspark.net	Commercespace	0870 7303170	£199.99	Unlimited	Unlimited	Yes	Yes
Simply Names	www.simplynames.co.uk	Simply Basic	01684 893020	£49.99	10Mb	0	No	No
Simply Names	www.simplynames.co.uk	Simply Soho	01684 893020	£69.99	50Mb	1	Yes	No
Simply Names	www.simplynames.co.uk	Simply Enterprise	01684 893020	£99.99	100Mb	10	Yes	No
Simply Names	www.simplynames.co.uk	Simply Corporate	01684 893020	£149.99	200Mb	20	Yes	No
Simply Names	www.simplynames.co.uk	Simply Ecom	01684 893020	£249.99	500Mb	50	Yes	No
Shared Knowledge	www.sharedknowledge.net	Entry	01707 885800	£99.99	40Mb	Unlimited	Yes	No
Shared Knowledge	www.sharedknowledge.net	Personal	01707 885800	£99.99	80Mb	Unlimited	Yes	No
Shared Knowledge	www.sharedknowledge.net	Small Business	01707 885800	£249.99	200Mb	Unlimited	Yes	Yes
Shared Knowledge	www.sharedknowledge.net	Net Business	01707 885800	£399.99	400Mb	Unlimited	Yes	Yes
Shared Knowledge	www.sharedknowledge.net	Executive	01707 885800	£499.99	400Mb	Unlimited	Yes	Yes
Shared Knowledge	www.sharedknowledge.net	Executive E-Commerce	01707 885800	£799.99	600Mb	Unlimited	Yes	Yes
Sonnet	www.sonnet.co.uk	Solo Lite 24/7	N/A	£180	25Mb	25	Yes	Yes
Sonnet	www.sonnet.co.uk	Dial4Business	N/A	£120	50Mb	25	Yes	Yes
Sonnet	www.sonnet.co.uk	Solo Daytime	N/A	£180	50Mb	50	Yes	Yes
Sonnet	www.sonnet.co.uk	Solo 24/7	N/A	£300	50Mb	50	Yes	Yes
Sonnet	www.sonnet.co.uk	Symphony	N/A	£660	100Mb	50	Yes	Yes
Square Internet	www.squareinternet.co.uk	Home Value Package	None	£13.99	35Mb	1	No	No
Square Internet	www.squareinternet.co.uk	Home Value Plus	None	£22.50	50Mb	Unlimited	Yes	No
Square Internet	www.squareinternet.co.uk	Business Host Package	None	£49.99	100Mb	Unlimited	Yes	No
Square Internet	www.squareinternet.co.uk	Business Host Plus Package	None	£99.99	250Mb	Unlimited	Yes	No
Strongnet	www.strongnet.co.uk	Various	01703 866006	Various	50Mb	Unlimited	Unlimited	No
Supanames	www.supanames.co.uk	Value Host	0870 1257678	£13.99	35Mb	1	No	Yes
Supanames	www.supanames.co.uk	Value Host Pro	0870 1257678	£23.99	35Mb	Unlimited	Yes	Yes
UK Hosting	www.ukhosting.co.uk	5 megs	0845 082 0696	£55.00	20Mb	1	Yes	Yes
UK Hosting	www.ukhosting.co.uk	10 megs	0845 082 0696	£95.00	20Mb	1	Yes	Yes
UK Hosting	www.ukhosting.co.uk	20 megs	0845 082 0696	£125.00	20Mb	1	Yes	Yes
Verio	www.verio.co.uk	Starter	020 7767 3700	£109.45	10Mb	2	Yes	Yes
Verio	www.verio.co.uk	Designer	020 7767 3700	£197.45	50Mb	20	Yes	Yes
Verio	www.verio.co.uk	Business	020 7767 3700	£274.45	125Mb	40	Yes	Yes
Verio	www.verio.co.uk	Commerce	020 7767 3700	£384.45	175Mb	60	Yes	Yes
Web Fusion	www.webfusion.co.uk	WebFusion Entry	0115 917 0000	£99.95	250Mb	1	No	Yes
Web Fusion	www.webfusion.co.uk	WebFusion Pro	0115 917 0000	£199.95	750Mb	100	Yes	Yes
Web Fusion	www.webfusion.co.uk	WebFusion Business Pro	0115 917 0000	£199.00	250Mb	100	Yes	Yes
Web Fusion	www.webfusion.co.uk	WebFusion Business E-Commerce	0115 917 0000	£499.00	250Mb	100	Yes	Yes
Web Tapestry	www.webtapestry.com	Basic Hosting	0800 0151718	£35.00	10Mb	1	Yes	Yes
Web Tapestry	www.webtapestry.com	Economy Hosting	0800 0151718	£50.00	25Mb	2	Yes	Yes
Web Tapestry	www.webtapestry.com	Senior Hostings	0800 0151718	£125.00	50Mb	5	Yes	Yes
Web Tapestry	www.webtapestry.com	Executive Hostings	0800 0151718	£200.00	100Mb	10	Yes	Yes
Xsession	www.xsession.com	Personal Hosting	01784 460896	£39.00	25Mb	20	Yes	No
Xsession	www.xsession.com	Business Hosting	01784 460896	£94.00	200Mb	100	Yes	No
Xsession	www.xsession.com	Premium Hosting	01784 460896	£350.00	500Mb	350	Yes	No
Zebra Hosts.net	www.zebrahosts.net	Package 1	0845 4584200	£50.00	5Mb	0	No	No
Zebra Hosts.net	www.zebrahosts.net	Package 2	0845 4584200	£100.00	25Mb	0	Yes	No
Zebra Hosts.net	www.zebrahosts.net	Package 3	0845 4584200	£175.00	50Mb	1	Yes	No
Zebra Hosts.net	www.zebrahosts.net	Package 4	0845 4584200	£500.00	100Mb	5	Yes	Yes
Zen Internet	www.zenwebhosting.com	RaQ 4i 128	0870 6000971	£1,140	20Gb	Unlimited	Yes	Yes
Zen Internet	www.zenwebhosting.com	RaQ 4i 256	0870 6000971	£1,740	20Gb	Unlimited	Yes	Yes
Zen Internet	www.zenwebhosting.com	RaQ 4i 512	0870 6000971	£2,340	40Gb	Unlimited	Yes	Yes
Zen Internet	www.zenwebhosting.com	RaQ4r 256	0870 6000971	£2,3400	20Gb	Unlimited	Yes	Yes
Zen Internet	www.zenwebhosting.com	RaQ 4r 512	0870 6000971	£2,940	40Gb	Unlimited	Yes	Yes
Zen Internet	www.zenwebhosting.com	RaQ XTR 128	0870 60000971	£3,540	30Gb Unlimited	Yes	Yes	
Zen Internet	www.zenwebhosting.com	RaQ XTR 1Gb	£4,740	80Gb	Unlimited	Yes	Yes	
ZyWeb Business	www.zyweb.com	ZyWeb Business	01392 209500	£210.00	30Mb	10	No	No



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Reviews

YOUR ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO ALL THE LATEST INTERNET SOFTWARE AND HARDWARE

Welcome...

THEY ALWAYS SAY that the second album is the most difficult for a band to make. The same goes for software – what do you do in version two if number one was regarded as a classic?

Thankfully, Adobe hasn't let us down, and the new version of Photoshop Elements builds on the success of the first, fine-tuning it into an even better, more comprehensive package. In fact, as long as you have a fancy for photo fiddling, you'll be able find something within this incredible program to make you happy.

Thomas Watson, Technical Editor

On test this issue...

110 **Photoshop Elements 2** The first version turned heads, but how does v2 shape up?

115 **xda Pocket PC** The most attractive PDA we've seen and one that packs a punch

116 **Samsung Digimax 350SE** An interesting model containing a wealth of surprising features

117 **Net Nanny 4.0** Does this protection software actually protect your kids?

118 **Flip2disk** It's sturdy, shock resistant, and gives you masses of storage

118 **Spidergen 1.5** Get into content management without spending thousands

119 **WebContact Wizard 1.5** Bulk emailing can be a pain, but this package alleviates your stress

120 **Hermstedt Webshuttle DSL** Get your broadband connection racing with this ADSL modem

120 **ShopFactory Professional 5** Build your own store with this intuitive eCommerce package

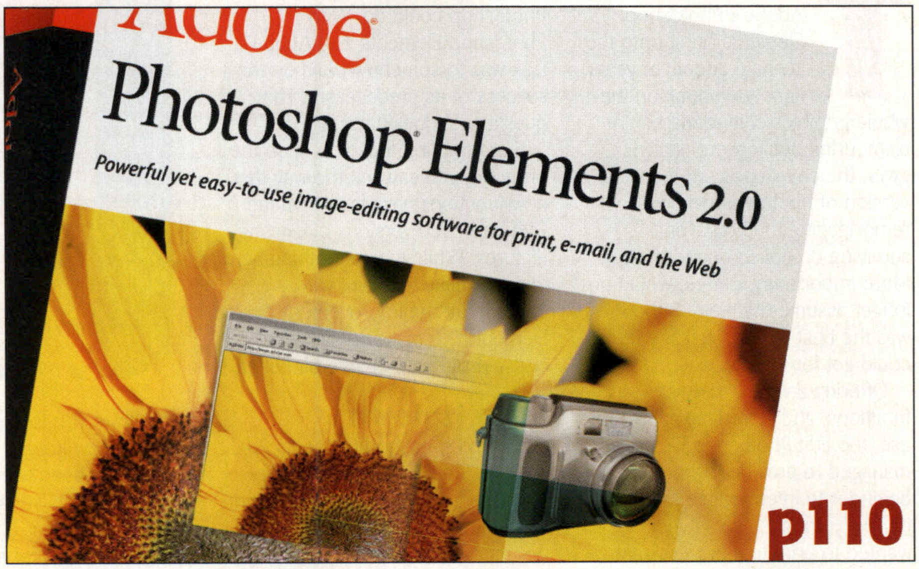
How our ratings work

Practical internet ★★ STAR BUY ★★ — A truly excellent product you should buy now. Given to scores of 90% or above

Practical internet RECOMMENDED — It's great, but not totally essential to your well-being. 85% or above

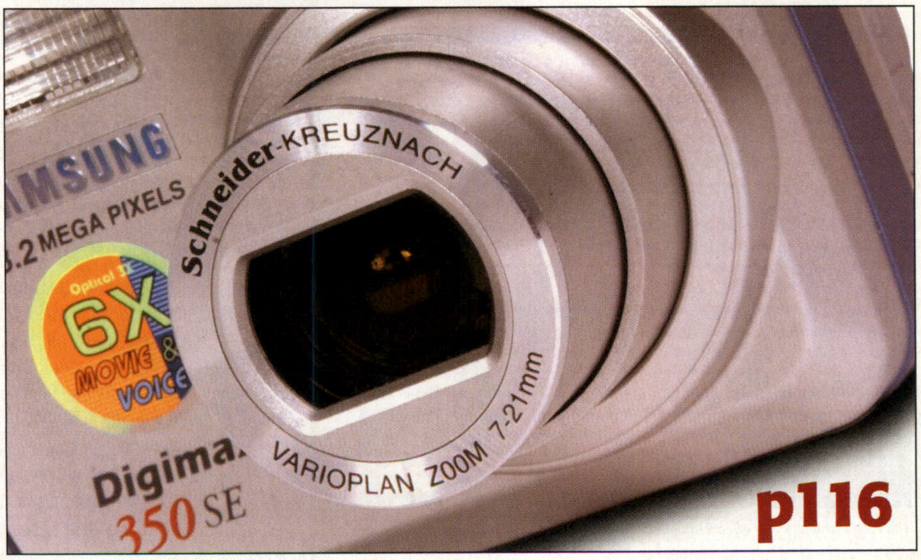
O2
xda
Pocket PC

p115



Adobe
Photoshop Elements 2.0
Powerful yet easy-to-use image-editing software for print, e-mail, and the Web

p110

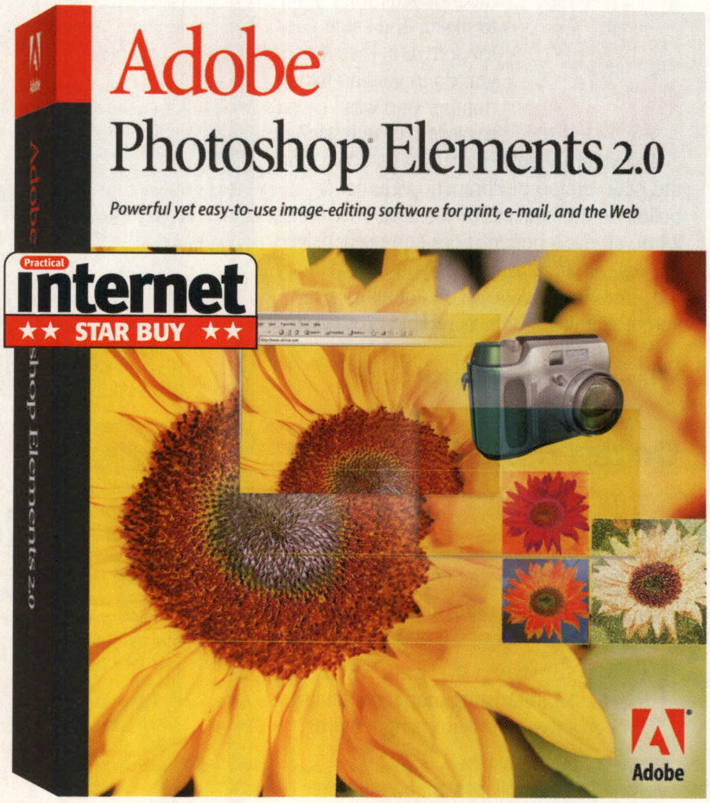


SAMSUNG
3.2 MEGA PIXELS
Optical 6X MOVIE & VOICE
Schneider-KREUZNACH
VARIOPLAN ZOOM 7-21mm
Digimax 350 SE

p116

Photoshop Elements 2.0

FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE HOTTEST GRAPHICS-EDITOR AROUND ISN'T EASY, BUT PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS 2.0 MANAGES QUITE NICELY, AS **THOMAS WATSON** EXPLAINS


Adobe
Photoshop Elements 2.0
Powerful yet easy-to-use image-editing software for print, e-mail, and the Web
Adobe Photoshop Elements 2.0
Adobe
Practical internet
★★ STAR BUY ★★

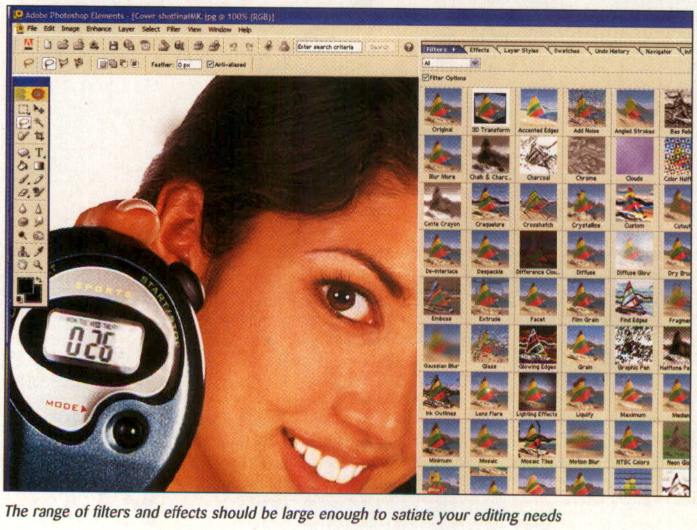
The virgin version of Adobe's Photoshop Elements burst onto the scene a couple of years ago, and shook up the whole graphics editing market. A clamouring public were finally given the chance to own a decent version of Photoshop without remortgaging the house and surviving on boiled rice for a year. More importantly, people would no longer assume that Paint Shop Pro was the best editing package they could get for their money.

Offering a wide variety of functions, and incredible ease of use, the first Photoshop Elements managed to provide for the beginner to intermediate market perfectly. In fact, unless you wanted to print to a professional standard, Photoshop Elements did pretty much everything that Photoshop could do. With Photoshop Elements 2.0, Adobe's task was to somehow build on the success of its predecessor. The question is, does it succeed?

From the first time you open the program, you can see the way that new functions have been melded with improved versions of existing features. While there's nothing here that will make you faint with excitement, the improvements in Elements 2.0 make an already classy program that little bit better.

Strip it down

Open up Photoshop Elements 2.0, and you'll be presented with the 'welcome' screen. Making its debut in the first edition of the program, this introductory screen is mainly aimed at new users to Elements and allows you to open files or create a new image. The new screen has been tweaked, though, and now sports stripped down options, as well as a more integrated look and feel. The 'New' and 'Open' options are joined by a handy 'Connect to scanner or camera' selection, which makes pulling images off your devices much easier.


Adobe Photoshop Elements - [Cover shotfinalMK.jpg @ 100% (RGB)]
File
Edit
Image
Enhance
Layer
Select
Filter
View
Window
Help
Enter search criteria
Search
Filters
Effects
Layer Styles
Swatches
Undo History
Navigator
Feather: 0 px
Anti-aliased
All
Filter Options
Original
3D Transform
Accented Edges
Add Noise
Angled Strokes
Blur More
Chalk & Charc...
Charcoal
Chrome
Clouds
Conte Crayon
Craquelure
Crosshatch
Crystallize
Custom
De-Interlace
Despeckle
Difference Clou...
Diffuse
Diffuse Glow
Emboss
Extrude
Facet
Film Grain
Find Edges
Gaussian Blur
Glass
Glowing Edges
Grain
Graphic Pen
Ink Outlines
Lens Flare
Lighting Effects
Liquify
Maximum
Minimum
Mosaic
Mosaic Tiles
Motion Blur
NTSC Colors
MODE
0:26

The range of filters and effects should be large enough to satiate your editing needs

Within the program itself, you should quickly notice that the interface design first seen in Photoshop 7 has been implemented. The shadowed buttons might not add any great functionality to the program, but they do make the working environment all the more attractive. The palette design has been carried over from the first version of Elements, which will be welcome news to the experienced user. This feature has all the palettes displayed as tabs in a line across the top of the screen. If you want to access a function, it's just a matter of clicking on the tab in question for the palette to appear. This is the ideal antidote to the well-known 'cluttered screen syndrome', seen on so many image- editing interfaces.

Fans of version one will be more than familiar with the File Browser feature, designed to make searching for images on your hard drive all the easier. This has been enhanced in version two, though, and now sports some impressive file altering options. In short, Photoshop Elements 2.0 makes it possible to rename and rotate images without actually opening them up. This section is also handy for organising images held on a digital camera, at source.

Beginner friendly

Many of the improvements in Photoshop Elements 2.0 have obviously been included to make the package even more accessible to inexperienced users. The Recipes feature, which caused a bit of a stir in the original Elements, now features even more step-by-step action which allows you to garner impressive results with a minimum of knowledge. If you missed the Recipe furore, this is basically a set of ready-made tutorials built into the program – not only are these based on the most popular subjects, but Elements 2.0 will actually perform many of the tasks for you, just to make sure you know how it should be done.

There's also an all-encompassing Glossary with the standard help files. If there's any term that you just can't get to grips with for whatever reason – and we mean any term – you're almost guaranteed to find it here. The Hints palette has also been improved, so you now only have to move your mouse over any item in the main toolbar to be presented with a handy description of what the tool actually does. For those of you weaned on having to rely on trial and error to find out the real functions of a program, this is nothing short of a godsend.

The misleading Quick Fix is another prominent feature designed to provide photo manipulation beginners with professional results in next to no time. This function, available from the main toolbar, allows you to tweak your photos quickly and easily. The name implies a simple button-click to correct small blemishes on the picture, but it's actually a full-blown editing feature – and instead presents you with all the basic image manipulation options in one handy window. You'll still have to alter the settings on your tod, but it's all so much more intuitive with this tool.

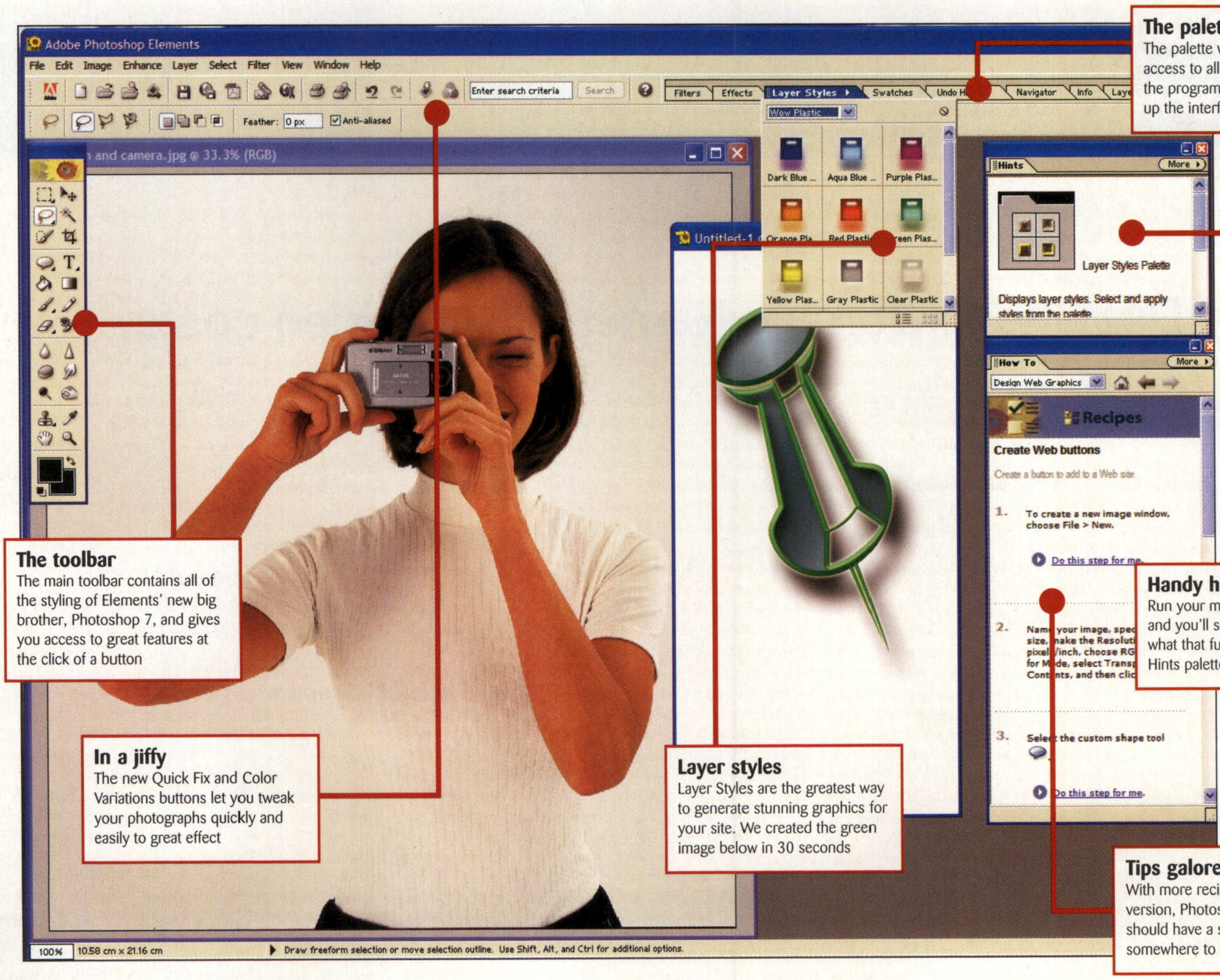
> "THE IMPROVEMENTS IN ELEMENTS 2.0 MAKE A CLASSY PROGRAM THAT BIT BETTER"

Get me a stylist

If you've used Photoshop Elements 1.0, or read any of our missives on the subject, you should be aware by now that the best feature in the program is the Image Styles tool. The power that this set of options gives you is incredible, and allows you to create amazing graphics from scratch without having to take an art degree. All you need to do is draw a shape in the main window, or create some text, and you're ready to have your mind blown by Image Styles. Basically, each of these is a set of filters and effects

→

Work your way around Photoshop Elements 2.0


Adobe Photoshop Elements
File Edit Image Enhance Layer Select Filter View Window Help
Enter search criteria
Search
Feather: 0 px
☑ Anti-aliased
and camera.jpg @ 33.3% (RGB)
Untitled-1
Filters
Effects
Layer Styles
Swatches
Navigator
Info
Wow Plastic
Dark Blue ...
Aqua Blue ...
Purple Plas...
Orange Pla...
Red Plastic
Yellow Plas...
Gray Plastic
Clear Plastic
Hints
More
How To
Design Web Graphics
Recipes
100%
10.58 cm x 21.16 cm

Layer Styles Palette

Displays layer styles. Select and apply styles from the palette

Create Web buttons

Create a button to add to a Web site.

1. To create a new image window, choose File > New.

Do this step for me.

2. Nam your image, spec size, nake the Resoluti pixel /inch, choose RG for M de, select Trans Cont nts, and then clic

3. Sele the custom shape tool

Do this step for me.

Draw freeform selection or move selection outline. Use Shift, Alt, and Ctrl for additional options.

The palettes
The palette well allows you quick access to all the main features of the program, without cluttering up the interface unnecessarily

The toolbar
The main toolbar contains all of the styling of Elements' new big brother, Photoshop 7, and gives you access to great features at the click of a button

In a jiffy
The new Quick Fix and Color Variations buttons let you tweak your photographs quickly and easily to great effect

Layer styles
Layer Styles are the greatest way to generate stunning graphics for your site. We created the green image below in 30 seconds

Handy hints
Run your mouse over any option, and you'll see a description of what that function does in the Hints palette

Tips galore
With more recipes than the first version, Photoshop Elements 2.0 should have a set of tips somewhere to suit your needs

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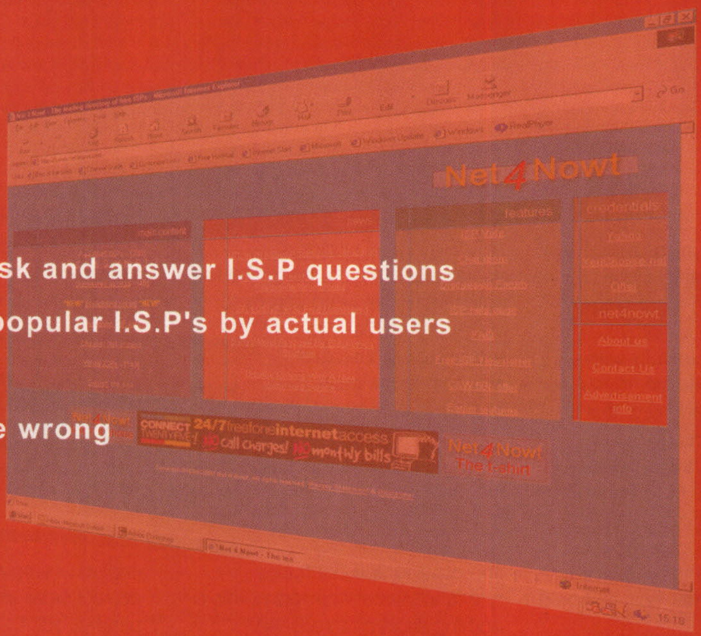
Net4Nowt
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>Email Forwarding
>Change Name Servers
>Change IPS TAG (UK Domains)
>No Release Fees
>Secure Credit Card Payment
>Domain Registered in your name
>Email support

No hidden costs > We recommend you look into buying your domain name carefully. Loads of companies advertise domains at prices too good to be true, because they are. You'll need to look into how much it'll cost you for NIC fees, transfer fees, domain parking and then add VAT. MagicalSoup prices are fully inclusive, the price you see is the price you pay.

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➔ piled on top of each other to give one professional-looking style. You might think that you could achieve a realistic orange plastic feel to your graphics, but we bet that Photoshop Elements 2.0 will do it much more quickly, and better to boot. The smallfry collection of Image Styles seen in the first version has been augmented by a variety of new effects, ranging from neon glows to dazzling chrome. These styles won't do much for your photos, but they're perfect for generating Web graphics for your site.

As well as the gamut of beginner-friendly options, Elements 2.0 has a fine collection of features for the more advanced user. The inclusion of a batch processing option shouldn't be sniffed at, although this is never the easiest function to perform. Likewise, the Photomerge option is perfect for creating stitched panoramas, but you'll need the patience of a saint to line it all up.

One useful addition to the Elements canon is the ability to take snapshots of digital video files. If you want to upload video files to your Web site, this is the easiest method for grabbing screenshots of the files in question. There's a good level of control as to which frames you extract from, so you can be sure that you're not stuck with the fateful 'eyes shut' screenshot.

The Web photo gallery feature has been retained, and remains the most straightforward way to turn a ramshackle collection of digital images into a decent-looking gallery, complete with thumbnails, pages and links. On a similar theme, Elements 2.0 introduces an interesting new option that allows you to create PDF slideshows from a collection of images. You have full control over the images used, transitions, time between images and loop options. In effect this is the photo equivalent of PowerPoint, and actually proves easier to use than Microsoft's slideshow software.

Second the best

The first version of Photoshop Elements was a great program, but version two redesigns the template, giving you even more options and an even more intuitive interface. Are there enough tweaks to justify a new release? We think so, especially if you've got a graphics-editor and don't quite know what to do with it. All we need for version three is CMYK support, and the whole world can embrace Photoshop Elements.

The verdict

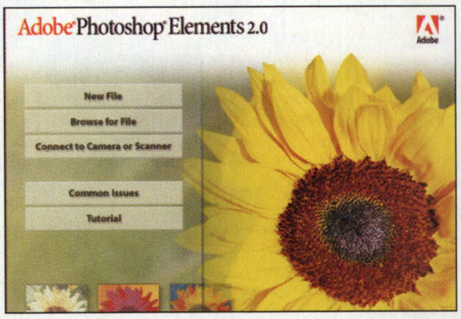
SOFTWARE: Photoshop Elements 2.0
PRICE: Around £88
TEL: 020 8606 4001
URL: www.adobe.com

FEATURES:	★★★★★	**OVERALL**
EASE OF USE:	★★★★★	**92%**
VALUE:	★★★★★	

✓ Unparalleled range of incredible features. Great value for money

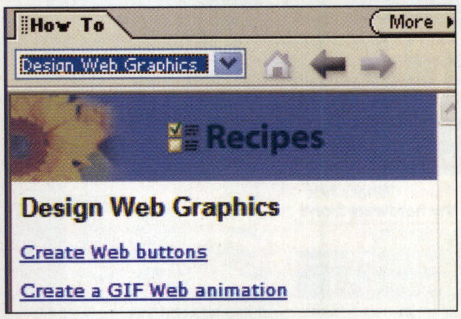
✗ There aren't that many significant changes from the first version

What's new in Photoshop Elements 2.0



1 New welcome screen

The standard welcome screen, which pops up when you start the program, has been tweaked slightly to give more relevant options. The 'Connect to Camera/Scanner' option is particularly useful for picking off pictures from a digital device.



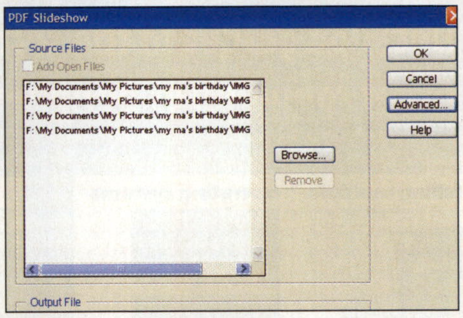
Design Web Graphics

Create Web buttons

Create a GIF Web animation

2 More Recipes

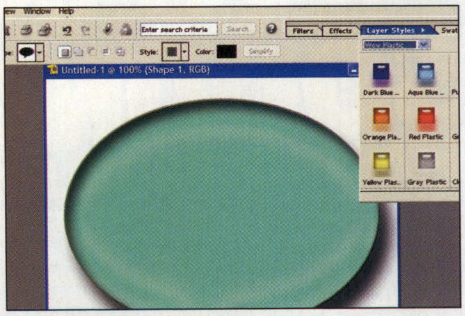
If you're new to the art of digital imaging, the built-in Recipes will sort you out a treat. Sitting in its own palette, this feature explains how to tinker with and create graphics. With loads of Recipes to choose from, you should find something to suit.



F:\My Documents\My Pictures\my ma's birthday\IMG
F:\My Documents\My Pictures\my ma's birthday\IMG
F:\My Documents\My Pictures\my ma's birthday\IMG
F:\My Documents\My Pictures\my ma's birthday\IMG

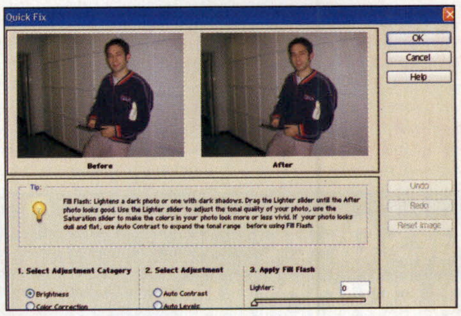
3 PDF Slideshows

Got a load of images you don't know what to do with? The PDF Slideshow option lets you add any picture you want to a slideshow, and also allows you to configure the animation exactly the way you want. Export it as a PDF, and you're sorted.



4 Layer Styles

The best option in any graphics-editor for creating stunning logos and graphics, this option lets you apply all manner of styles to any image you wish. Used intelligently, this will give you graphics that you dared not dream of.

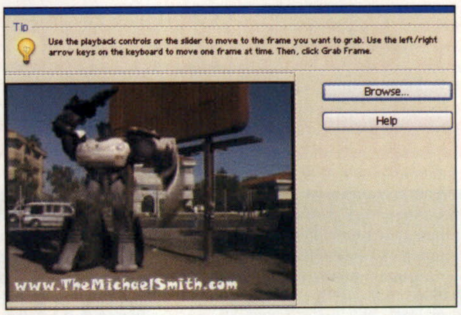


Fill Flash: Lightens a dark photo or one with dark shadows. Drag the Lighter slider until the After photo looks good. Use the Lighter slider to adjust the tonal quality of your photo, use the Saturation slider to make the colors in your photo look more or less vivid. If your photo looks dull and flat, use Auto Contrast to expand the tonal range before using Fill Flash.

1. Select Adjustment Category: ● Brightness ○ Color Correction
2. Select Adjustment: ○ Auto Contrast ○ Auto Levels
3. Apply Fill Flash: Lighter: 0

5 Quick Fix

Despite the name, this is actually a comprehensive range of image manipulation features designed to give you full control over your pictures. In essence, this is every image option combined into one handy package.



Use the playback controls or the slider to move to the frame you want to grab. Use the left/right arrow keys on the keyboard to move one frame at time. Then, click Grab Frame.

6 File from video

Grabbing screenshots from video files has always been a notoriously difficult pastime. The 'Import Frame From Video' option makes it easier than ever before, and lets you choose exactly which frame you'd like to grab.

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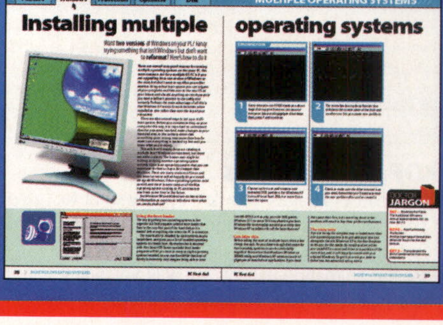
Feature
Windows
Protection
Optimise
Disc
MULTIPLE OPERATING SYSTEMS
Installing multiple operating systems
DOCTOR JARGON

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Disc
GADGETS
Gadgets – What's hot on the hardware front!
Iomega Predator CD-RW
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Creative Labs Inspire 2.1 Digital 2800
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Issue 10
WINDOWS
BUG FIXES
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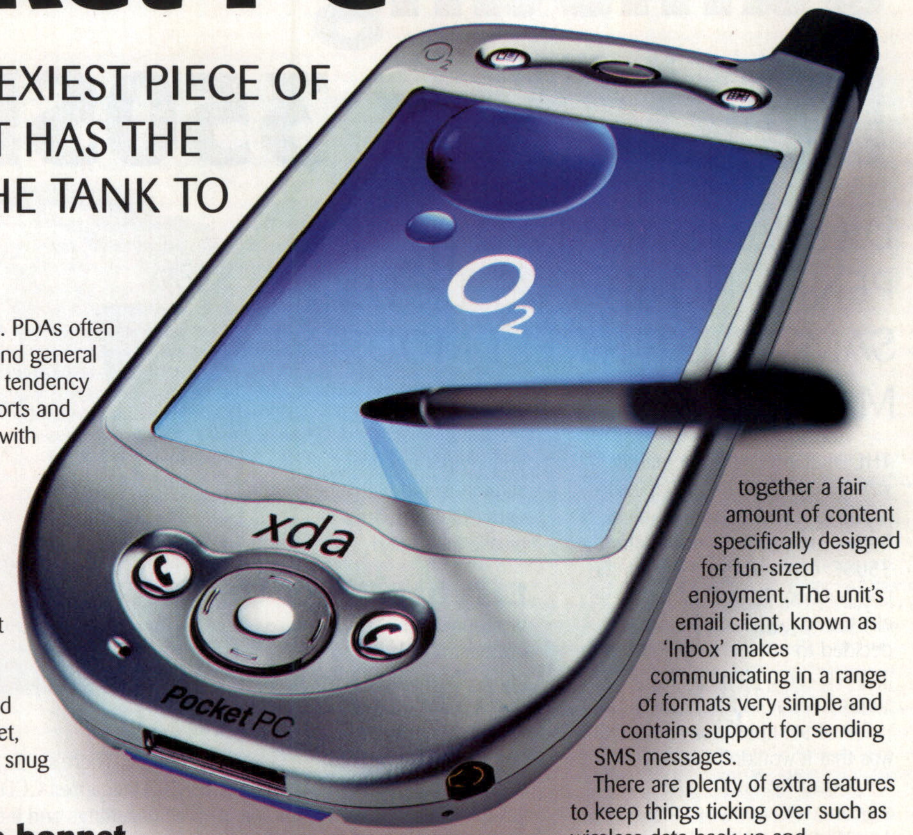
PERFORMANCE

xda Pocket PC

IT MAY LOOK LIKE THE SEXIEST PIECE OF KIT ON THE PLANET, BUT HAS THE XDA GOT ENOUGH IN THE TANK TO JUSTIFY ITS PRICE TAG?



DESPITE BEING THE size of a small family hatchback, back in the Eighties mobile phones were considered the ultimate accompaniment for the style-conscious yuppy on jaunts around local wine bars.

Twenty years or so later, and technological evolution has seen these bulky bricks transformed into perfectly-formed devices that not only look cool, but which act as much more than just a portable telephone. At the same time, PDAs are fast becoming the must-have boy toy for any upwardly mobile man about town. Some would say then, that BT has hit the nail square in the face with this flagship product for its trendy new O_2 brand – a mobile phone/PDA combo that looks like it's come straight off the set of *Blade Runner*.

From the moment you slip the device into your hand you'll notice that as well as looking elegant and refined, the xda is incredibly well constructed. The aluminium body feels very sturdy and the chrome buttons on the front of the panel are solid and robust, giving you the impression that they will remain rigid for some time to come. What's more, the call buttons are illuminated, making the xda look even more gorgeous when it's being used at night.

Watertight design

The design masterstrokes continue to come thick and fast with the subtle grey phone antenna. This little beauty doubles up as a stylus holder, gripping the pen tightly by the power of friction. The stylus itself is heavy and easy to grip, and screws apart to reveal the reset spigot used to conduct hard or soft resets of the xda. PDAs often fall foul to dust and general dirt, which has a tendency to get into the ports and monkey around with the internal workings of the device. Thankfully, the xda is largely immune to this problem as most of the ports, including the SIM card slot and hands-free socket, are sheltered by snug rubber covers.

Under the bonnet

Battery life in the xda is certainly no worse than most of its rivals. The main internal cell takes about three hours to fully charge and gives you a fair few hours of life before it needs returning to its stout cradle. For the real power user, there's space for an external battery; giving you an extra four hours of life.

One compromise that's apparently been made in order to prolong the life of the battery is the xda's screen, which is only capable of displaying 4,096 colours, compared to 65,000 colours on some of the newer Pocket PC units. Having said this, the screen is still fairly sizeable at 3.5-inches so you don't have to squint or hold the xda right in front of your face to see what's going on.

The set up procedure is highly intuitive and once you've inserted a SIM card, you can auto-configure the xda for use with your airtime operator (as long as it's O_2, of course). You don't need to worry about lots of fiddly connection wizards either, as the set up process will automatically configure all your GSM and GPRS mobile Internet settings.

Net on the move

The xda comes complete with the Microsoft Pocket PC 2002 Phone Edition software and is preloaded with some decent applications, including Word, Excel and Internet Explorer. With just 32Mb of RAM, however, you are limited to the number of applications you can run at once. The integration of the telephone functions is very impressive, and we found it easy to access someone's contact details on the PDA and double-click their name to call them up.

As we've seen in the past from mobile devices such as the Pogo, bringing full colour wireless Net access to a small screen does have its stumbling blocks. Viewing ordinary Web sites can be a tad fiddly as it normally involves a lot of scrolling. However, O_2 has put together a fair amount of content specifically designed for fun-sized enjoyment. The unit's email client, known as 'Inbox' makes communicating in a range of formats very simple and contains support for sending SMS messages.

There are plenty of extra features to keep things ticking over such as wireless data back up and speakerphone capabilities. The latter is particularly useful for avoiding walking the streets talking into what feels like a flatfish.

It's partly for this reason that we're unsure whether these over-sized devices will catch on with the fashion-conscious mobile phone users. However, as PDAs go, the xda's superb design and well-integrated range of voice and data of features just about warrant the inflated price tag. ■

The verdict

SOFTWARE: xda Pocket PC Phone Edition
PRICE: £499
TEL: 0870 850 0202
URL: www.o2.co.uk

FEATURES: ★★★★☆
EASE OF USE: ★★★★☆
VALUE: ★★★☆☆

OVERALL
88%

✓ Looks gorgeous and incorporates a decent range of applications

✗ It's not cheap, and only comes with 32Mb of RAM

Samsung Digimax 350SE

DIGICAMS ARE TWO-A-PENNY NOWADAYS. DOES SAMSUNG'S LATEST MODEL MANAGE TO STAND OUT?

THE DIGITAL CAMERA market is saturated with three megapixel models, but Samsung has high hopes that its latest model, the 350SE, can make its mark on the competition. To test the Japanese electronic giant's claims, we decided to put the 350SE through its paces on a glorious day in summer's day in Bournemouth.

Our first impression of the 350SE was that it wouldn't win any awards for portability. This is one chunky digicam, with contours that make Ann Widdecombe look slinky – there's little chance of you wanting to pop this model into your pocket for a night out on the town. On the positive side, this makes the 350SE a more than robust performer. You could drop this digicam on a stone floor and be confident of it emerging relatively unscathed – although we'd hardly suggest that this would be a suitable way to treat a £350 camera. There's even a rather nifty carrying case to help you keep it free from scratches and blemishes. Other digicam firms please take note!

Easy handling

We found the 350SE a pretty simple beast to tame. The manual is both detailed and well laid out, and the navigation system both intuitive and free from complications. We managed to get this digicam up and running in under five minutes, suggesting that this is an ideal camera for a beginner looking for a model with decent specifications. One criticism we would level at the 350SE, however, is that it's incredibly slow to operate. Any complicated function, such as zooming in for a shot or deleting images from the memory card, is painfully sluggish.

In terms of specifications, Samsung's newest offspring is a match for any model in this price range. There's a 3x optical zoom, a 3.2 megapixel CCD, four different ISO settings and a decent lens courtesy of German firm Schneider. In addition to this impressive roll call of parts, there's also a night mode for nocturnal snappers and a facility for digital video. The more ambitious photographers among you will relish the opportunity to set their own exposure values and white balance levels.

The 350SE certainly takes a mean picture – as you can see from the rich colours and impressive detail on this seaside shot

Shoot to thrill

With its beefy feature set and myriad of advanced options, the 350SE should be a pretty mean snapping machine, and so it proved. We were most chuffed with the quality of the pictures we took, many of which demonstrated not only rich colour balance, but also a notable level of detail. Shooting in macro mode was a little fiddly at first, but when we finally got the hang of it we achieved some exciting results.

Although the main reason we achieved such good results is down to the quality of the 350SE's CCD, we were certainly aided by a series of useful options built into the camera. Warnings are flashed up when the light is too poor to take good pictures and camera shake alerts are dished out to those cursed with unsteady hands.

Overall we were impressed with the 350SE's performance. Although this isn't the best-looking digital camera we've ever seen and it's a touch on the heavy side for our liking, we have to concede that the picture quality was excellent. What's more, at just £350 this camera represents excellent value for money, especially when you factor in the distinguished feature set and ease of operation. ■

The verdict

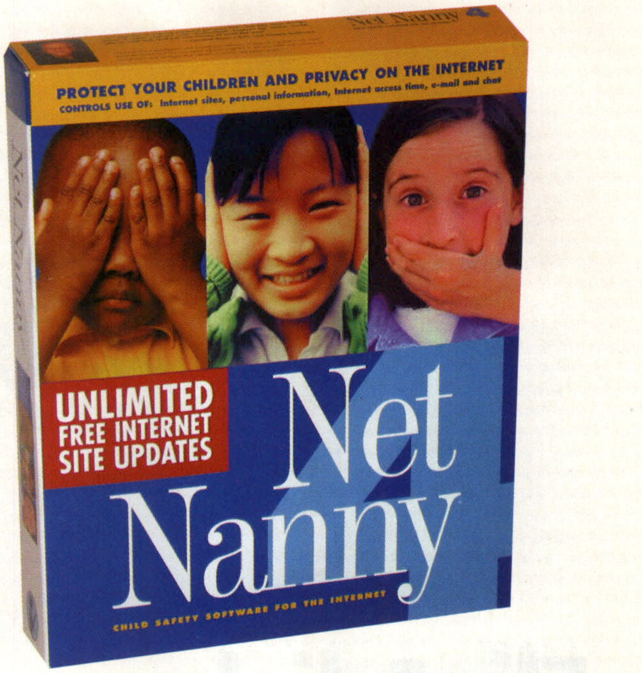
SOFTWARE: Samsung Digimax 350SE
PRICE: £349.90
TEL: 0800 521652
URL: www.samsungcamera.com

FEATURES: ★★★★☆
EASE OF USE: ★★★★☆
VALUE: ★★★★☆

OVERALL
81%

✓ Easy to set up and operate, takes great pictures

✗ A little ugly and quite weighty, too


Net Nanny 4
PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN AND PRIVACY ON THE INTERNET
CONTROLS USE OF: Internet sites, personal information, Internet access time, e-mail and chat
UNLIMITED FREE INTERNET SITE UPDATES
Net Nanny
CHILD SAFETY SOFTWARE FOR THE INTERNET

Net Nanny 4

KEEP YOUR KIDS AWAY FROM THE MURKY SIDE OF THE WEB WITH THIS POPULAR SAFETY SOFTWARE

SEVEN YEARS AGO, Net Nanny launched the world's first Internet safety software to prevent the warping of fragile little minds. Now in its fourth incarnation, the program is still a popular choice with parents and offers a range of features for blocking and tracking online activity.

The driving force behind the software is a comprehensive list of Web sites, newsgroups and chat rooms that are known to contain pornography, violence or racism. Net Nanny also contains a list of positive, educational sites, giving you complete control over what people look at on your PC. You can choose to filter out all negative sites or alternatively, only allow access the positive sites. What's more, these site lists can be updated on a daily basis at the click of the button, to keep abreast (no pun intended) of any new offensive sites.

Imposing restrictions

Setting up surfing restrictions on your machine is fairly straightforward and is all done through the Net Nanny Settings interface. You can add up to 14 different users, each with their own username and password and then tweak individual settings for each user. This gives you the flexibility to allow adults access to anything; teenagers to view certain things; and young children to be limited to kids' sites. The range of settings here is pretty impressive and gives you control over everything from which swearwords are blanked out online, right through to the text of the warning messages displayed when a user tries to access a forbidden site.

While the list of forbidden sites is fairly comprehensive, it is by no means exhaustive and we managed to find some vulgar pages that flashed up in the browser with no warnings at all, especially when performing searches in Google. Having said this, Net Nanny's logging facility provides you with detailed evidence of every site a user visits and is capable of flagging up the ones that contain swearwords or nudity. You can then save these URLs as a text file and add them to the list of blocked sites, to prevent the user making a return visit to the offending pages.

Safe details

Another useful feature of the program is the 'Personal Information' section, which allows you to prevent details such as family names, addresses, phone numbers and credit card numbers being given out over the Net. As a result, you can prevent your kids getting hold of your flexible friend and paying a visit to eBay to stock up on chocolate, ponies and Ferraris.

Although instant messaging programs such as AOL, ICQ and MSN are left untouched, Net Nanny is useful for restricting access to IRC chat clients to stop your kids being exposed to some of life's more sinister characters. As a result, the program affords you a large slice of peace of mind if you're worried about your offspring dredging up the sleazier side of the Net. ■

The verdict

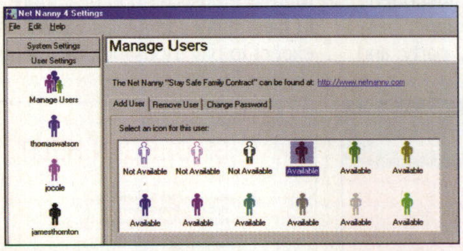
SOFTWARE: Net Nanny 4
PRICE: £39.99
TEL: 0870 527 5186
URL: www.softwair.co.uk

FEATURES:	★★★★☆	**OVERALL**
EASE OF USE:	★★★★☆	**83%**
VALUE:	★★★★☆	

✓ Easy to configure with plenty of options to play with

✗ Won't block out every last nipple or swearword

Net Nanny's child-proofing features

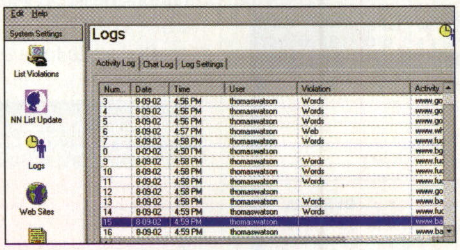

Net Nanny 4 Settings
File Edit Help
System Settings
User Settings
Manage Users
thomaswatson
jocole
jamesthornton
Manage Users
Add User
Remove User
Change Password
Not Available
Not Available
Not Available
Available
Available
Available
Available
Available
Available
Available
Available
Available

The Net Nanny "Stay Safe Family Contract" can be found at: http://www.netnanny.com

Select an icon for this user:

1 Managing users

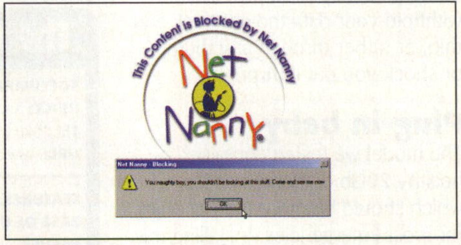
The software allows you to add up to 14 different user accounts, each with its own username and password. This gives you the flexibility to apply a particular set of restrictions that are tailor-made to the user.


Edit Help
System Settings
List Violations
NN List Update
Logs
Web Sites
Logs
Activity Log
Chat Log
Log Settings

Num...	Date	Time	User	Violation	Activity
3	8-09-02	4:56 PM	thomaswatson	Words	www.go
4	8-09-02	4:56 PM	thomaswatson	Words	www.go
5	8-09-02	4:56 PM	thomaswatson	Words	www.go
6	8-09-02	4:57 PM	thomaswatson	Web	www.wh
7	8-09-02	4:58 PM	thomaswatson	Words	www.fuc
0	0-09-02	4:50 PM	thomaswatson		www.bg
9	8-09-02	4:58 PM	thomaswatson	Words	www.fuc
10	8-09-02	4:58 PM	thomaswatson	Words	www.fuc
11	8-09-02	4:58 PM	thomaswatson	Words	www.fuc
12	8-09-02	4:58 PM	thomaswatson		www.go
13	8-09-02	4:58 PM	thomaswatson	Words	www.ba
14	8-09-02	4:59 PM	thomaswatson	Words	www.fuc
15	8-09-02	4:59 PM	thomaswatson		www.ba
16	8-09-02	4:59 PM	thomaswatson		www.ba

2 Logging activity

Net Nanny's 'Logs' feature lets you track the online activity of each individual who uses your machine. You can set this to record all activity or just that which violates the restrictions you've laid down for that user.


This Content is Blocked by Net Nanny
Net Nanny
Net Nanny - Blocking
OK

You naughty boy, you shouldn't be looking at this stuff. Come and see me now

3 Access denied

When a user tries to access a site that has been blocked, they will be faced with a warning message, which can even be personalised. Attempting to access blocked swearwords will lead to that word being blanked out on the screen.

Flip2disk
SHOC BLOC
AMACOM

Flip2disk

WITH LOOKS, POWER AND A MIGHTY STORAGE GIRTH, THE FLIP2DISK COULD BE THE PERFECT STORAGE SOLUTION

IT'S TAKEN LESS than two years for removable storage to progress from the floppy drive to the complete portable hard drive solution. People will no longer put up with having a small amount of storage at their disposal – everybody wants huge chunks of space at their fingertips, in order to cope with the mammoth chunks of data that currently inhabit most PCs.

The Flip2disk from Amacom is one of the new breed of drives that offers all the facilities of a hard drive, with the portability and ease of use of a Zip drive. Like most of its contemporaries, this model has been designed to look good, with a tasty frosted glass effect giving a classy appearance. More than that, though, the Flip2disk promises to withhold your data though thick and thin, or rather through any thump or shock you put it through.

Plug-in baby

The model we tested contained a healthy 20Gb of storage space, which should be more than enough for most emergencies. Installing the Flip2disk is a doddle, and Windows XP and Mac users won't even need to call upon the supplied drivers disc. Just plug it in, and you're ready to enter file transferring heaven. Incidentally, the unit appears as another drive on your machine, so you can drag and drop to your heart's content.

As far as connections go, the Flip2disk offers seven different ways to attach it to a computer. Using the add-on connector, you can use USB (1.1 or 2.0), Firewire and even things like Parallel. Laptop users needn't feel left out either, for there is an option to connect up with a PCMCIA flip card.

Considering most portable hard drives only give you one or two options, the seven types on offer here are a real bonus. In fact, the whole package is something of a joy to behold, managing to combine looks, personality and functionality rather beautifully. ■

The verdict

SOFTWARE: Flip2disk
PRICE: Around £180
TEL: 020 8993 7323
URL: www.amacom-tech.com

FEATURES:	★★★★☆	**OVERALL**
EASE OF USE:	★★★★★	**82%**
VALUE:	★★★★☆	

✓ Robust and sturdy portable hard drive. Ideal for many occasions

✗ Might suffer at the hands of new Iomega innovations

.SPIDERGEN
SPIDERGEN VER 1.5 ADVANCED
1.5

Spidergen 1.5 | WWW.SPIDERGEN.COM |

Programmed and developed by Stavros Katsoulis - Spidergen interface design and development by Jas Sohal - Additional programming support by Sakis Gousios - Toragen Ltd | WWW.TORAGEN.COM | 2001 All Rights Reserved

Spidergen 1.5

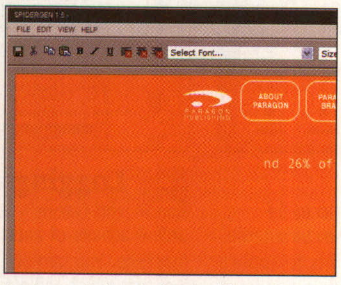
DO YOU NEED TO UPDATE YOUR SITE ON A REGULAR BASIS, BUT DON'T KNOW HOW? SALVATION COULD BE CLOSE AT HAND

WE'VE REVIEWED A gaggle of Web editors in this magazine, all designed to give you perfect Web pages for an increasingly small amount of effort. While this is all well and good, the simple fact is that these programs don't cater for a very large proportion of the market. We're talking about those who don't need a Web page designer, as they've already had their pages designed for them. For these people, the challenge is finding a package that allows them to keep control of their site once it has been designed. And this is where Spidergen 1.5 shimmies into the Web design saloon.

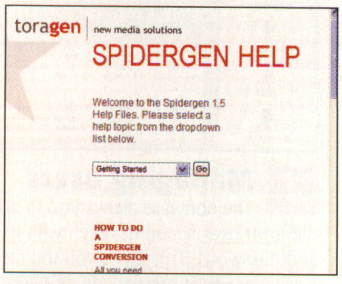
Quite simply, Spidergen is a straightforward and easy to use content management system. Regular readers will know that this curious beast appears most often when a professional designer has created a site for a third party, and then needs to give control back to the site's owners. The owners might not have a clue how to handle code, and neither party wants months of hard graft wasted in a moment of folly, so a content manager is used. This basically allows a complete novice to edit a previously existing Web page, and therefore makes it possible to keep sites up-to-date without spending ridiculous sums of money.

Bargain prices

So, if there's a chance that you'll be needing a content manager at some point, why would you opt for Spidergen 1.5? Well, for a start, there's the price. For a fraction under £120, you're getting your hands on a system that is normally created as a bespoke tool, and therefore costs a good deal more. In fact, many companies would expect to pay thousands for such a



Load your site into the browser-like window, and edit away. Notice the different menus and tools



Welcome to the Spidergen 1.5 Help Files. Please select a help topic from the dropdown list below.

HOW TO DO A SPIDERGEN CONVERSION

All you need

As with any good program, Spidergen comes equipped with a wide variety of help files tool. What you get with Spidergen is a simple content manager – it's been designed to fit with the most common types of sites, so you won't get the tailored feel that many similar packages give you. The main principle, though, is that it will work with most sites you try.

Once you've got it up and running, you'll be presented with your page as it would appear in any browser. In fact, the Spidergen interface resembles a browser, with a few significant changes. The menu, for example, contains a variety of tools for changing the content of the page, and clicking on images brings up the handles you'd see in a WYSIWYG package – that let you tweak the dimensions and placement of the picture in question.

Edit at will

You also have an array of font options at your disposal, including size and style. This way, you can make sure that any new content you add to the site fits in with the existing style. In effect, you have the whole gamut of Web-editing options at your fingertips, only in a much more compact and manageable interface.

The trick with the whole thing is that the person in question will always be working on an existing site, which makes editing a whole lot easier. And if you have a smart designer in the first place who can create templates at the drop of a hat, it's incredibly easy for the editor to add content to the site as well. If you're ever in need of any kind of content management system, but don't want to shell out thousands for the privilege, this might be the answer. ■

The verdict

SOFTWARE: Spidergen 1.5
PRICE: £116
TEL: 01902 824471
URL: www.spidergen.co.uk

FEATURES: ★★★★☆
EASE OF USE: ★★★★☆
VALUE: ★★★★☆
OVERALL **73%**

✓ Excellent introduction to content managers for a great price

✗ Is a tad simplistic compared to similar products

WebContact Wizard 1.51

CREATING AND SENDING BULK EMAIL CAN BE A RIGHT PAIN, BUT NOT WITH THIS GREAT TOOL

your marketing desk-pal.
Windows 98/Me/NT/2000/XP
• Build professional web forms easily
• Publish forms forWindows/Unix servers
• For use with Outlook or any MAPI mail client
• Send targeted mail to web enquirers
• HTML mail wizard
WebContact®
WIZARD
your marketing desk-pal.
Version 1.50
WebContact WIZARD Version 1.50

SENDING OUT BULK emails to an army of customers is one of those rarely recognised skills, and usually requires much more effort than anyone would like to invest. For a start, how do you get all of the addresses of your customers into an email client without having to painstakingly enter each and every address by hand? And that's just the start of the problems – you've not even approached the whole nightmare of preventing recipients seeing every other name on the list.

WebContact Wizard is an attempt to take much of the mystery and graft out of building up a database of names to be emailed as a group. Bulk emailing has rarely been easier, and there are few programs out there designed specifically for this purpose, so WebContact Wizard might be the answer to the odd mass emailing panic attack.

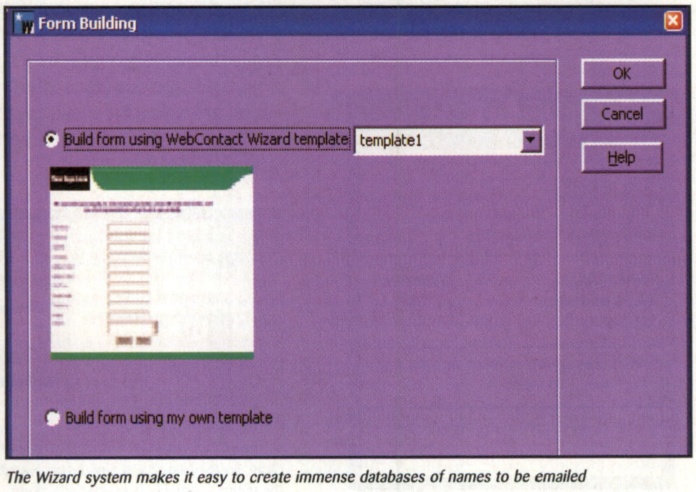
The basic tenet of this program is to make the importing of email addresses a doddle. All you have to do is set it up and running to check through your email client. Any messages it finds will be stored, and it's from these saved messages that you can create your database of users. Adding addresses follows a distinctly formulaic principle – with each message split into different sections. Just tell WebContact Wizard which sections to import, and it will do the rest.

Essential information

It's worth pointing out at this point that WebContact Wizard 1.51 uses the latest Microsoft Data Access Component, and that it will refuse to function without this essential file. Thankfully, the program folder contains a copy of it anyway, so you should be able to get up and running nice and quickly.

Once you've got the addresses into the program, the fun has only just begun. Because they're all part of one huge database, the choice is yours as to how you want to send emails. The latest version of the program has support for both text and HTML messages, allowing you to give your missives infinitely more oomph. You'll also find a very handy 'draft' feature, which lets you store templates and email types for repeated and later use. If you're trying to get a newsletter up and running, this could save you hours in the long run.

There are also a good number of filters built into the program, so that you can specify exactly which type of people should receive emails from your massive database. The inclusion of an auto-responder not only gives you an added feature, but lets you know that you can treat this as an email client in its own right. It might be a tad tricky to get to grips with, but this is your man if you're after bulk emailing heaven. ■



● Build form using WebContact Wizard template: template1

○ Build form using my own template

The Wizard system makes it easy to create immense databases of names to be emailed

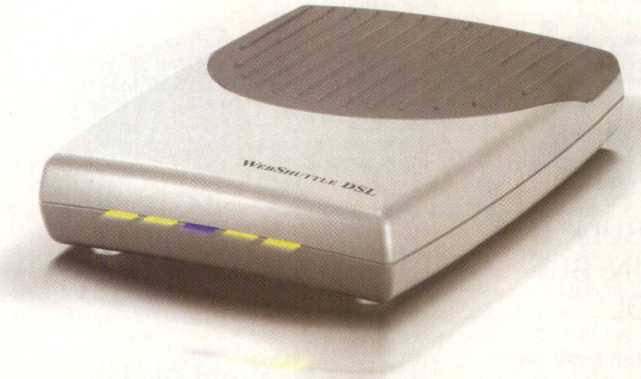
The verdict

SOFTWARE: WebContact Wizard 1.51
PRICE: £105.74 (£82.24 upgrade)
TEL: N/A
URL: www.webcontactwizard.com

FEATURES: ★★★★☆
EASE OF USE: ★★★☆☆
VALUE: ★★★★☆
OVERALL **70%**

✓ The way forward for anyone wanting bulk email facilities

✗ Takes a bit of getting used to. Needs a fair bit of knowledge



Hermstedt Webshuttle DSL

EXPOSE YOUR CONNECTION TO SOME SERIOUS BANDWIDTH WITH THIS RACY ADSL MODEM

IT COULD BE said that Alcatel's stingray-style SpeedTouch broadband modem has sparked something of a new wave in 'fashion' modems. Instead of serving up dull grey boxes with uninspiring flashing LEDS, developers have latched onto the idea of producing devices which are pleasing to the eye.

This attractive piece of kit from Hermstedt would look great alongside any machine, but unlike many broadband modems on the market, it seems to have been produced with Macs in mind. We reckon that its minimalist black and white casing and funky see-through cables would look just dandy next to the new generation of iMacs.

It's not just Apple owners that can adopt a WebShuttle, though, and both PC and Mac users should have no problems connecting thanks to the USB interface and simple driver installation procedure.

Speed demon

Once you've rigged up the device, it's pretty easy to configure the various settings for your connection, thanks to the 'Communication Manager' that comes bundled with the driver software. As well as allowing you to configure your broadband connection, this utility will check the status and quality of your line and if necessary, adjust the modulation to fine-tune it. The 'DSL Monitor' function lets you watch the performance of your pipe, giving you a graphical display of its transfer rate.

Light the way

The rather fetching yellow and blue LEDs on the WebShuttle give you a clear view of exactly what the modem is up to at all times, and act as a quick reference if anything is amiss with your connection.

Despite all these nice touches, the one glaring sticking point of the WebShuttle is its price tag, which at £150 is three times more than the Alcatel SpeedTouch, and a fair bit more than a standard modem. ■

The verdict

SOFTWARE: Hermstedt WebShuttle DSL
PRICE: £148.64
TEL: 0207 421 1500
URL: www.hermstedt.com

FEATURES: ★★★☆☆
EASE OF USE: ★★★★☆
VALUE: ★★☆☆☆
OVERALL 67%

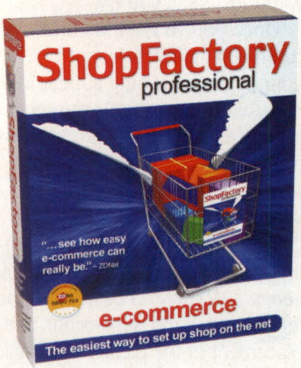
✔ Looks great, performs well and is very Mac-friendly

✖ Comes with a whopping price tag

ShopFactory Professional 5

STAY OPEN ALL HOURS ON THE WEB WITH THIS INTUITIVE ECOMMERCE SOFTWARE

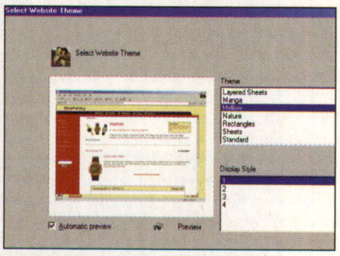
AS THE CARNAGE of the dotcom bust fades into the memory, people are starting to realise that there is now money to be made on the Web – provided you have a solid business plan. Which is where ShopFactory comes in. The program offers a series of tools for creating and maintaining an online store with ease, and more importantly, doesn't come with the monstrous price tag of many leading catalogue builders.


ShopFactory
professional
"...see how easy e-commerce can really be." – ZDNet
e-commerce
The easiest way to set up shop on the net

Set up shop

Despite the fact that the software doesn't come with a user guide or any instructions, we found it a breeze to pick up and start using. A wizard-driven template system allows you to set up the basics of your site by entering some details and choosing from one of 50 different themes. These aren't exactly masterstrokes of design but they aren't as cheesy as those found in similar programs.

Once you've entered the skeleton framework of your store, it's simply a case of adding your products, which can be done very easily thanks to ShopFactory's no-nonsense tree structure interface, which gives you an at-a-glance view of all the goods and departments in your site.



Okay, so they won't win any design awards, but the themes certainly help your site along

You can constantly keep track of what your site looks like at every stage in its development thanks to the software's previewing facility, and once finished, an integrated publisher helps you get the store on to the Web quickly and smoothly.

Handling orders is no problem either, as the program comes with links to more than 20 real-time online banks. Orders come to you via email and the SSL, PGP and SET encryption facilities help to keep the information secure, giving peace of mind to both you and the shop's customer.

Though the sites you build in ShopFactory may not win many design awards, the software is ideal for your first foray into eCommerce and has enough in the tank to help you grow your business from a small shop to a complete department store. ■

The verdict

SOFTWARE: ShopFactory Professional 5
PRICE: £196
TEL: N/A
URL: www.shopfactory.com

FEATURES: ★★★☆☆
EASE OF USE: ★★★★☆
VALUE: ★★★★☆
OVERALL 79%

✔ Intuitive interface helps you build and maintain your estore

✖ Doesn't give you complete control over site design

content management

edit your own site it's easy and free

spidergen

TheName

For professional internet services at the keenest prices, there is only one Name

Manage your own web site with spidergen, a powerful but simple content management system that's compatible with most existing sites and is extremely easy to use.

TheName and spidergen have teamed up to give you an exclusive offer that represents a saving of more than £100 on standard spidergen packages

.net RATING ★★★★☆

Sign up or upgrade before October 31st 2002 and get spidergen ***absolutely free****

Order online at **www.thename.co.uk**
or call us on **08707 65 63 64**

* Offer applies to all new hosting accounts, upgrades and renewals bought before October 31st 2002 and applies to spidergen standard version. Must be requested at time of ordering.

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bargainHOST.co.uk

BargainHost.co.uk provides low cost UK webhosting and domain name registrations.

FREE! domain name or transfer.

Budget hosting for £12.99 pa
FREE co.uk or org.uk
Domain Name included
.com .net .org £8 extra
or FREE Transfer of Domain Name (any tld)
No set-up fees

We accept all Major Credit/Debit Cards, Cheques and Postal Orders. No hidden charges

BUDGET Account 35Mb only £12.99 pa
BUDGET PRO Account 50Mb only £22.99 pa
Budget Pro hosting includes:
FREE Domain Name/Transfer
50 megs web space
Unlimited POP3 email accounts
Webmail Account NEW
Unlimited POP3 email forwarding
10 Sub-Domains Manager NEW
Unlimited POP3 Auto Responders
FrontPage 2000/2002 Extensions NEW
Full CGI and Perl support
11 Pre-installed scripts
Message Board & Chat Room
Choice of 2 Shopping Carts
SSI (Server Side Includes)
No adverts or popups
PHP4 and Multiple MYSQL Databases
File Manager (web FTP) NEW
Control Panel (Cpanel 4)
Graphical Stats NEW
Raw Access Logs
24/7 FTP access from any ISP

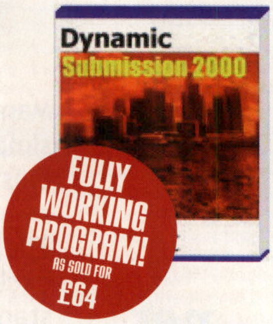
from £12.99 per year

www.bargainhost.co.uk

CD contents

Get your site listed on major search engines

SUBMIT YOUR WEB PAGES TO THE NET'S LEADING SEARCH SITES AND WATCH THE HITS FLOOD IN


Dynamic
Submission 2000
FULLY WORKING PROGRAM!
AS SOLD FOR
£64

WHILE BOGSTANDARD SITE submission programs are great for adding your pages to thousands of obscure search engines across the planet, most of them omit the most crucial site of them all – Google.

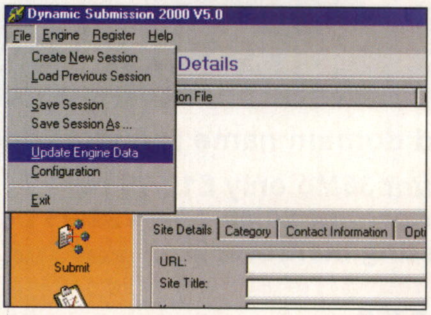
As the search engine of choice for the serious Web user, Google is tracked by millions of people a day, so having your site listed on its pages gives you a fighting chance of attracting some interest. Unlike many of its peers, Dynamic Submission 2000 lets you to submit to Google, along with over a thousand other major search engines, without any hassle.

After entering a few details about your site, the fully working program will submit your pages to your chosen search engines within minutes. It also serves up all the tools you need to get listed on the top positions, as well as allowing you to print out reports to track the progress of your submissions.

As well as this full version software, we've also included a demo of the latest version on our cover CD. Dynamic Submission 2000 6.1 contains a host of new features for you to get to grips with.

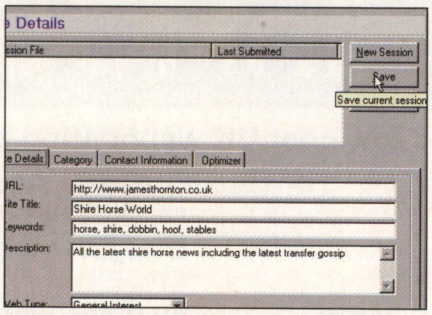
As if that wasn't enough, we're offering you the chance to save 15% when you upgrade to version 6.1. Simply go to the online order form at **www.apexpacific.com/order.html** and enter the discount code 'PIMAG-15%'.

Get listed on Google with Dynamic Submission 2000


Dynamic Submission 2000 V5.0
File Engine Register Help
Create New Session
Load Previous Session
Save Session
Save Session As ...
Update Engine Data
Configuration
Exit
Details
ion File
Submit
Site Details
Category
Contact Information
Opti
URL:
Site Title:

1 Download engine data

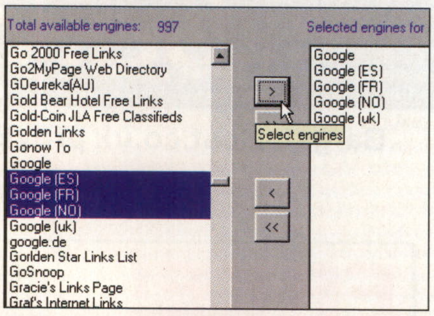
When you run Dynamic Submission for the first time, you'll need to download the engine data file from the developer's Web server. Click on 'Update Engine Data' from the 'File' menu.


e Details
ssion File
Last Submitted
New Session
Save
Save current session
te Details
Category
Contact Information
Optimizer
Web Type

URL: http://www.jamesthornton.co.uk
Site Title: Shire Horse World
Keywords: horse, shire, dobbin, hoof, stables
Description: All the latest shire horse news including the latest transfer gossip
Web Type: General Interest

2 Enter site details

Next, click on the 'Site Details' tool and complete all the fields. Press on 'Save' to store these details in a session file. You can reload this later by choosing 'Load Previous Session'.

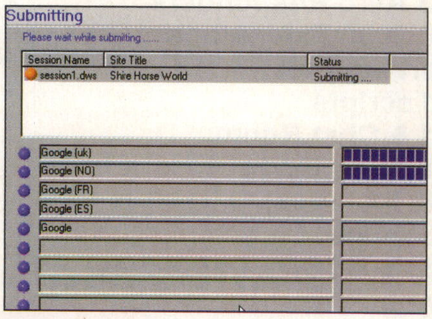

Total available engines: 997
Selected engines for
>
Select engines
<
<<

Go 2000 Free Links
Go2MyPage Web Directory
GOeureka(AU)
Gold Bear Hotel Free Links
Gold-Coin JLA Free Classifieds
Golden Links
Gonow To
Google
Google (ES)
Google (FR)
Google (NO)
Google (uk)
google.de
Gorlden Star Links List
GoSnoop
Gracie's Links Page
Graf's Internet Links

Google
Google (ES)
Google (FR)
Google (NO)
Google (uk)

3 Start your engines

Now click on the 'Search Engines' button from the left hand menu. Select the engines you wish to submit to and click on the '>' button, or select all engines by clicking the '>>' button.

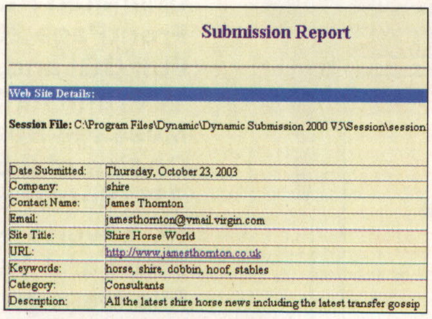

Submitting
Please wait while submitting ......

Session Name	Site Title	Status
session1.dws	Shire Horse World	Submitting ....

Google (uk)
Google (NO)
Google (FR)
Google (ES)
Google

4 Submit your site

Click on 'Submit' from the list bar menu and highlight the current session file. Click the 'Start Submit' button. Now relax while your site is submitted to the selected search engines.



Submission Report

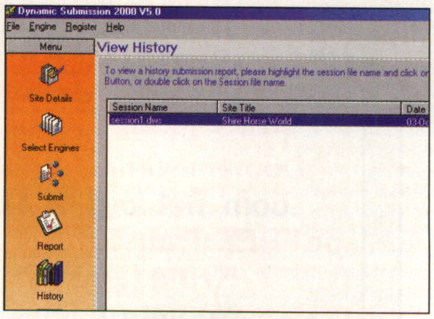
Web Site Details:

Session File: C:\Program Files\Dynamic\Dynamic Submission 2000 V5\Session\session

Date Submitted:	Thursday, October 23, 2003
Company:	shire
Contact Name:	James Thornton
Email:	jamesthornton@vmail.virgin.com
Site Title:	Shire Horse World
URL:	http://www.jamesthornton.co.uk
Keywords:	horse, shire, dobbin, hoof, stables
Category:	Consultants
Description:	All the latest shire horse news including the latest transfer gossip

5 View the report

Once submission is complete, select the session file name and click on the 'Report' button. A Submission Report will now be displayed to show you the results of your efforts.


Dynamic Submission 2000 V5.0
File Engine Register Help
Menu
View History
Site Details
Select Engines
Submit
Report
History

To view a history submission report, please highlight the session file name and click on Button, or double click on the Session file name.

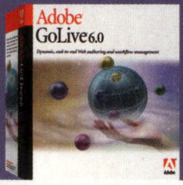
Session Name	Site Title	Date
session1.dws	Shire Horse World	03/0

6 View the history

If you want to look back on the history of your site submissions to see which engines were involved, simply click on the 'History' button. Now click 'View' to look at the stats for this.

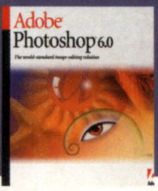
Try these

→ GoLive 6.0, 30-day trial
One of the most widely-used packages within the design industry, GoLive has tools to design, develop and manage dynamic content for the Web.



→ Flash MX
Arguably the king of the Web graphics world, Flash MX delivers a bevy of awesome features housed within a highly intuitive interface. As a result, you can liven up your pages with impressive graphics, animations and cool navigation elements.

→ Photoshop 6.0
Adobe's professional imaging package helps you fully explore your creative side, allowing you to perfect your digital photos and produce the highest quality images for your Web site.



EROL 3 Small store

FULLY WORKING PROGRAM! AS SOLD FOR £99

MAKE MONEY FROM THE NET BY BUILDING AN ECOMMERCE SITE WITH THIS POWERFUL SOFTWARE

AS THE GLOOM of the dotcom slump fades into history, canny online entrepreneurs are starting to report profitability for the first time.

The powerful new features within EROL 3.0 give you the chance to prove yourself in the eCommerce arena by setting up an impressive store on the Web.

You can retrieve your orders online and use the program's workflow tools to automatically print order details, invoices and delivery notes. You can even choose to email single or multiple customers information about their orders. For more information on this excellent eCommerce software see our three-page workshop on page 102.

Softsilver Transformer 1.1

FULLY WORKING PROGRAM! AS SOLD FOR £324

TRANSLATE TEXT DOCUMENTS AND DATABASE FILES INTO XML WITH THIS EASY TO USE PROGRAM

ENABLING YOU TO embrace the latest XML technologies, Softsilver Transformer gives you the power to convert, integrate and publish your data on the Web. The software lets you convert any text file or database into XML and automate these transformations with a command line utility.

To register for your full version of Transformer, simply enter the following code: PINTE-D4328-D4FF8-98260. *Practical Internet* readers also qualify for a special discount on the latest version of the software, Softsilver Transformer 2.0, which adds database support and graphical XML design. It's available to readers for the special price of £148, a saving of £98. To take up the offer, visit the registration page at **www.softsilver.com/register.asp** and enter the offer code: PI0902. This offer is open until 31 October 2002.

DB to HTML Express 1.5

FULLY WORKING PROGRAM! AS SOLD FOR £32

CONVERT DATABASES INTO HTML PAGES THAT CAN BE VIEWED ON THE WEB

THIS TEMPLATE-BASED Web publishing software lets you create static database-driven sites in no time.

You can use the program to create professional-looking HTML pages without the need for any additional tools. Simply choose your data source, pick a format then generate the HTML. The software handles ODBC databases and contains features such as CGI scripting and command line support.

To get your free registration code for DB to HTML Express 1.5, follow the link displayed in the program's registration dialog. To upgrade to version 2.2 for the special price of £23, visit **www.xlinesoft.com/practicalinternet/upgrade.htm**.

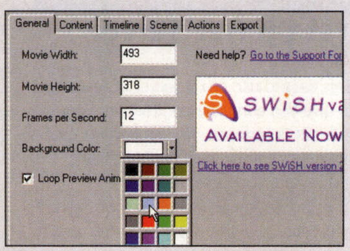
SWiSH Lite

FULLY WORKING PROGRAM! AS SOLD FOR £20

ADDING FLASH ELEMENTS to Web pages is one of the best ways to get your site noticed and impress your visitors. SWiSH Lite makes this easy, allowing you create professional-looking animations in no time.

To activate the full version of SWiSH Lite, click on the 'Purchase' button. This opens the registration page where you should enter 'sag sag lag 016 toe' and click 'Proceed'. You'll then receive a registration code to unlock the full version.

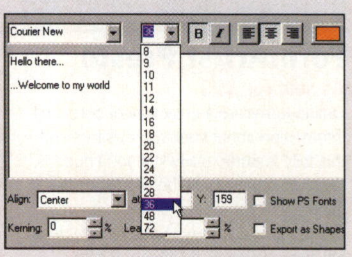
We're offering readers the chance to upgrade to SWiSH 2. New features include a WYSIWYG display, buttons, sprites and 'live' editing. We're offering a 10% discount on SWiSH 2, which you can buy at **www.swishzone.com/practicalinternet.html**.


General
Content
Timeline
Scene
Actions
Export
Need help? Go to the Support For
SWiSHv
AVAILABLE NOW
Click here to see SWiSH version

Movie Width: 493
Movie Height: 318
Frames per Second: 12
Background Color:
☑ Loop Preview Anim

1 Set up the movie

To create a new animation in SWiSH, first set the size under the 'General' tab. Enter a width and a height for the movie. Now choose a background colour from the palette.

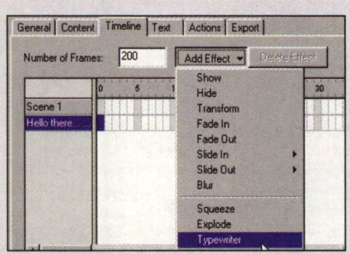


Hello there...
...Welcome to my world

Align: Center
Y: 159
☐ Show PS Fonts
Kerning: 0
☐ Export as Shapes

2 Enter some text

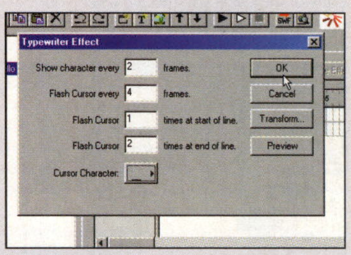
Choose 'Insert Text' from the 'Modify' menu. This brings up a 'Text' tab in the main interface. Enter your text, and modify the font, size and colour using the formatting tools.



Number of Frames: 200

3 The timeline

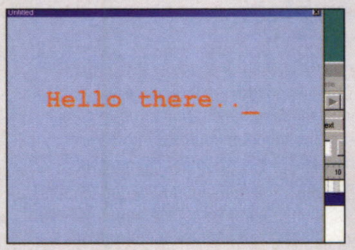
You can view your animation elements and change the order they appear by clicking the 'Timeline' tab. You can add effects to your text by clicking 'Add Effect'.



Show character every 2 frames.
Flash Cursor every 4 frames.
Flash Cursor 1 times at start of line.
Flash Cursor 2 times at end of line.
Cursor Character: _

4 Perfect the effect

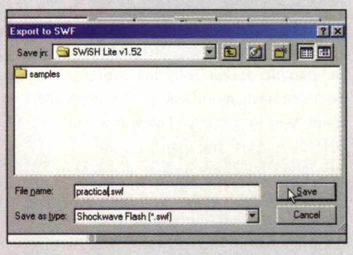
A dialog window is displayed with options on the effect you chose. Here, you can alter various aspects of the animation – we've changed the delay of the Typewriter Effect.



Hello there.._

5 Play the movie

To play the animation in a separate window, click on the 'Play' button. You can use this to check the progress of your movie. To stop the animation, just hit the 'Stop' button.



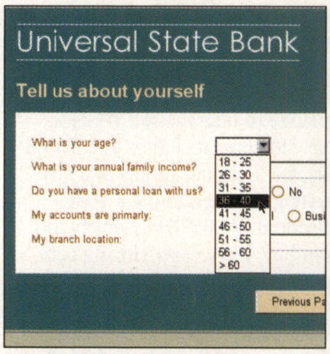
Save in: SWiSH Lite v1.52
File name: practical.swf
Save as type: Shockwave Flash (*.swf)

6 Export it out

Once you're satisfied with your creation, you can save it out as a Flash file by choosing 'Export to SWF' from the 'File' menu. Enter a name for the file, select a location, then click 'Save'. →

→ Fully working programs

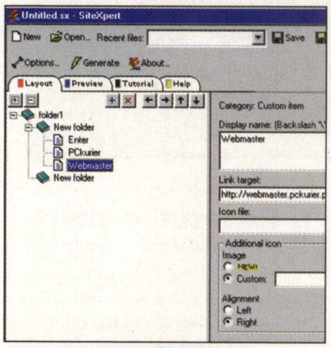
GET THE LOWDOWN ON EVEN MORE GREAT FULLY WORKING SOFTWARE ON THIS MONTH'S DISC


Universal State Bank
Tell us about yourself
What is your age?
What is your annual family income?
Do you have a personal loan with us?
My accounts are primarily:
My branch location:
18 - 25
26 - 30
31 - 35
36 - 40
41 - 45
46 - 50
51 - 55
56 - 60
> 60
No
Busi
Previous Pa

FormArtist Presto

As sold for £95

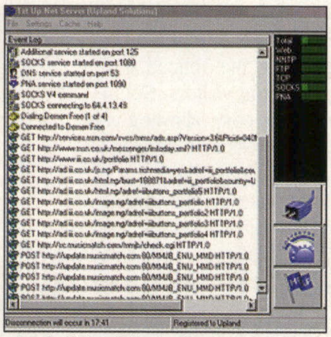
Online forms are a great way of collecting information about your site's visitors and this fully featured utility lets you knock together professional-looking forms in minutes. The trial copy of the software on this month's disc can be converted into a full copy of FormArtist Presto for free simply by clicking on the 'Buy Now' button. You'll then be emailed a license key. As part of this special offer, Quask is offering a discount of 35% on all products. To claim your discount, simply send an email to **sales@quask.com**, including a copy of the email you receive when you get your free Presto license key.


Untitled.sx - SiteXpert
New
Open...
Recent files:
Save
Options...
Generate
About...
Layout
Preview
Tutorial
Help
folder1
New folder
Enter
PCkurier
Webmaster
New folder
Category: Custom item
Display name: (Backslash
Webmaster
Link target:
http://webmaster.pckurier.p
Icon file:
Additional icon
Image
None
Custom:
Alignment
Left
Right

Xtreeme SiteXpert 4

As sold for £42

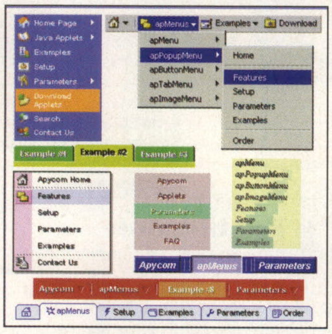
Improving clunky, awkward site design is an absolute doddle with this impressive Web site navigation builder. The program allows you to rustle up JavaScript and DHTML menus, site maps, portal interfaces, Java tree applets and search engines for your site. We're also offering readers a chance to upgrade to the very latest version of the software, SiteXpert 6, at a special discounted rate. You'll pay just £34 for the Standard version and £86 for the Professional version of the program. If you'd like to take advantage of this offer, just pay a visit to **www.xtreeme.com/pim**.


1st Up Net Server (Upland Solutions)
Event Log
Total
Web
NNTP
FTP
TCP
SOCKS
PNA
Disconnection will occur in 17:41
Registered to Upland

1st Up Net Server

As sold for £22

This easy to use proxy server is designed to give you complete control over your Internet experience. The application level proxy lets you network two machines, giving both access to the Web, newsgroups, email, FTP and other online applications. Unlike many proxy servers, it comes with advanced monitoring and blocking features that put you in the driving seat of your connection, letting you specify allowed sites, blocked sites and disallowed words. In order to unlock the full program from the cover disk, you'll need to enter the following details – Name: upland; Serial Number: 00003000; Activation Key: wTSU-tCeq-qEBd-uWkX.


Home Page
Java Applets
Examples
Setup
Parameters
Download Applets
Search
Contact Us
apMenus
Examples
Download
apMenu
apPopupMenu
apButtonMenu
apTabMenu
apImageMenu
Home
Features
Setup
Parameters
Examples
Order
Example #1
Example #2
Example #3
Apycom Home
Features
Setup
Parameters
Examples
Contact Us
Apycom
Applets
Parameters
Examples
FAQ
apMenu
apPopupMenu
apButtonMenu
apImageMenu
Features
Setup
Parameters
Examples
Apycom
apMenus
Parameters
Apycom
apMenus
Example #
Parameters
apMenus
Setup
Examples
Parameters
Order

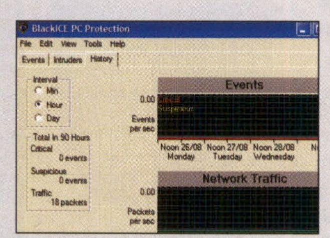
Apycom Java Menu Applets

As sold for £16

Adding professional quality menus to your Web site needn't be a drag thanks to this intuitive utility which allows you to create browser-independent drop-down menus, bars and buttons. We're also offering readers the chance to upgrade to the latest version of Apycom Java Menu Applets with a 25% discount. To take up this great offer, send a short email to **discount@apycom.com** with a reference to *Practical Internet* along with the product ID. For more information, see the Apycom order page at **www.apycom.com/apmenu/order.html**.

Net Security Toolkit

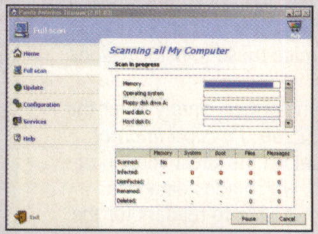
PROTECT YOUR PC FROM THE DANGERS OF THE NET


BlackICE PC Protection
File
Edit
View
Tools
Help
Events
Intruders
History
Interval
Min
Hour
Day
Total in 90 Hours
Critical
0 events
Suspicious
0 events
Traffic
18 packets
Events
Network Traffic
Events per sec
Packets per sec
Noon 26/08 Monday
Noon 27/08 Tuesday
Noon 28/08 Wednesday

BlackICE PC Protection 3.5

30-day trial,

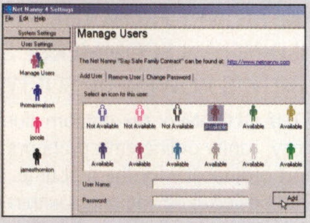
It's sad to say, but there's still an unruly element on the Net who get their kicks by hacking into other people's machines. Fear not though, because BlackICE offers professional strength protection for your PC. Not only does it provide advanced intrusion detection, but a powerful commercial strength firewall helps ensure you are well and truly guarded against attack. We're offering readers the chance to upgrade to the full version of BlackICE for the special price of £24.95 inc VAT (normal price is £34.95) plus £3.50 postage. The product can be ordered by calling 01752 895100 and quoting reference code 208GUPRI.


Full scan
Home
Full scan
Updates
Configuration
Services
Help
Scanning all My Computer
Scan in progress
Memory
Scanned
Infected
Disinfected
Renamed
Deleted
Exit
Pause
Cancel

Panda Antivirus Titanium

30-day trial

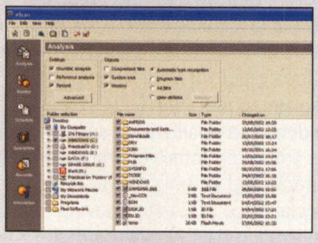
Providing the ideal solution for those who want tight security combined with ease of use, this popular software rapidly detects and disinfects all types of viruses on stand-alone PCs. We've also teamed up with Panda Software to offer readers the chance to snap up the advanced anti-virus program Panda Antivirus Platinum for just £30.30 including VAT. This represents a 20% discount on the normal price of the software, which protects all possible virus entry points, with particular emphasis on the Net and email. To take advantage of this great offer, simply call **01223 531173** or **0870 444 5640**, quoting reference number PPH-20. More details on the software can be found at **www.pandasoftware.co.uk**. This offer expires on 20 October 2002.


Net Nanny 4 Settings
System Settings
User Settings
Manage Users
Manage Users
Add User
Rename User
Change Password
Not Available
Available
User Name:
Password:
Add

Net Nanny 4.2

30-day trial

With so much media hype surrounding the issue, we're all aware that the Internet can be a dangerous place for children. However, why should they miss out on all the great things the Net can offer? NetNanny gives you the peace of mind to allow your kids to browse the Net without going where they shouldn't and can be used to monitor all online activity on your PC. What's more, we're offering readers the chance to upgrade to the latest full version of this great Net watchdog for just £29.99 – and that's a 25% discount. To take up the offer, contact the developers direct on **08705 275 186** or email **sales@softwair.co.uk**. Don't forget to mention where you heard about this offer.

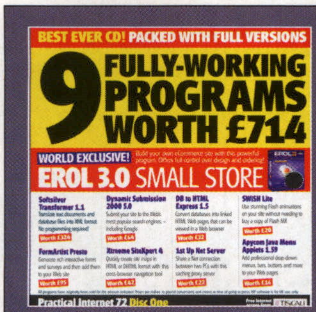

eScan
Analysis

eScan Pro

30-day trial

Serving up a complete content security and anti-virus solution for your PC, eScan Pro helps keep bugs away from your machine. The software comprises Anti-Virus On-Demand Scanner, Anti-Virus Monitor, Content-Monitor, Content-Administrator and MailScan Lite. As well as including a trial version of the program in our Net Security Toolkit, we're offering *Practical Internet* readers the chance to buy an unrestricted one year license key for eScan Pro at the discounted price of £23.99. Alternatively, you can take out a licence key for a year on sister product eScan Virus Control for the special price of £15.99. Both deals represent a cool 20% saving on the RRP. Just call **08705 275 186** or email **sales@softwair.co.uk**

WHAT'S ON OUR TWO FEATURE-PACKED CDs…



BEST EVER CD! PACKED WITH FULL VERSIONS

9 FULLY-WORKING PROGRAMS WORTH £714

WORLD EXCLUSIVE! Build your own eCommerce site with this powerful program. Offers full control over design and ordering!

EROL 3.0 SMALL STORE

Softsilver Transformer 1.1 Translate text documents and database files into XML format. No programming required! Worth £326

Dynamic Submission 2000 5.0 Submit your site to the Web's most popular search engines – including Google Worth £64

DB to HTML Express 1.5 Convert databases into linked HTML Web pages that can be viewed in a Web browser Worth £32

SWISH Lite Use stunning Flash animations on your site without needing to buy a copy of Flash MX Worth £20

FormArtist Presto Generate rich interactive forms and surveys and then add them to your Web site Worth £95

Xtreeme SiteXpert 4 Quickly create site maps in HTML or DHTML format with this cross-browser navigation tool Worth £42

1st Up Net Server Share a Net connection between two PCs with this caching proxy server Worth £27

Apycom Java Menu Applets 1.59 Add professional drop-down menus, bars, buttons and more to your Web pages Worth £16

Practical Internet 72 Disc One

■ Full Products
- 1st Up Net Server
- Apycom Java Menu Applets 1.59
- DB to HTML Express 1.5
- Dynamic Submission 2000 5.0
- EROL 3.0 Small Store
- Quask FormArtist Presto
- Softsilver Transformer 1.1
- SWiSH Lite
- Xtreeme SiteXpert 4

■ Demos
- Adobe GoLive 6.0
- Apycom Java Menu Applets 3.00
- DB to HTML Express 3.0
- Dynamic Submission 2000 6.1
- Photoshop 6.0
- Softsilver Transfomer 2.0
- SWiSH 2.0
- Xtreeme SiteXpert 6

■ ISP
- Tiscali

■ Workshops
- Mozilla 1.0
- ChatAnywhere 1.5
- CleanSpace 7.0
- Color Wheel Expert 4.1
- Dreamweaver MX
- Flash MX
- Netscape 6.2
- QtraxMax
- WebCopier 3.2

THE COMPLETE NET SECURITY TOOLKIT

- Protect your PC from viruses and clean up after infections
- Remove spyware from your system
- Prevent hackers from accessing your files

Over 100 programs to protect your PC and Mac from the worst of the Internet

Save 40 hours of download time

Safe and sound Complete anti-virus solutions from Panda, Norton and McAfee

Keep your children safe 10 full strength content filters to help protect your children from adult material

Protect your privacy Stop people seeing where you've been on the Net with Evidence Eliminator 5

Practical Internet 72 Disc Two

£38 worth of upgrade offers!

■ Ad blocking
- Ad Killer 0.96
- AdFree 3.0.1
- AdSubtract Pro
- AdSubtract SE 1.68
- GuardIE Ad Blocking Security Suite 2.5
- IE Window Killer 0.8
- PopUp Zero Pro 2.17
- PopUpCop 1.2.0.24
- SearchSleuth 2.01
- SMASHER 2.7.28
- Stop-the-Pop 1.21
- STOPzilla 1.0.7
- Webwasher 2.21
- Zero Popup 2.0

■ Anonymous surfing
- 4t HIT Mail Privacy Lite 1.01
- Aladdin DropStuff 5.0
- A-Lock 6.0
- Cookie Eater 1.0
- Cookie Monster II 1.0
- CT Cookie Spy 2.0
- CyberScrub 2.0
- Don't Panic 4.0
- East-tec Eraser 2002
- Evidence Eliminator 5.054
- IMPasse 1.0
- Internet Cleanup 2.0
- Internet Sweeper 1.7.1
- Mister Alibi 1.0
- MultiProxy 1.2
- PGPFreeware 7.0.3
- Privacy Eraser 1.68
- SecureExplore 3.2
- SurfSecret 4.5
- Tracks Eraser Pro 2.0
- Window Washer 4.7
- ZDelete 3.0

■ Anti-virus
- Anti-Trojan 5.5.38
- Avast Home Edition 3.0.464
- AVG Antivirus 6.0
- DiamondCS IRClean 2.0
- DrWeb Antivirus 4.25
- eScan Pro
- eScan Virus Control
- eTrust EZ Antivirus 5.4.1.2
- Norton Antivirus 2002 8.0
- Panda Antivirus Titanium
- Solo Antivirus 2.5
- Vcatch Virus Catcher 3.8.0.6
- Worm Detector 3.1

■ Content filters
- AB System Spy 5.0
- Access Administrator Pro
- ContentCleaner 3.0
- CPUKeys 5.0
- Cyber Patrol 5.0
- IE Protector 1.0
- Net Nanny 4.2
- SnapKey: Parental Internet Monitor 2.0
- WatchDog 4.3
- WinGuardian 3.0

■ Firewalls
- Agnitum Outpost 1.0.1617
- BlackICE PC Protection 3.5
- Kerio Personal Firewall 2.1
- McAfee Firewall 3.02
- SecureUP Personal Firewall 2.0
- Steganos Online Shield 1.5
- Subseven: Firewall 1.0
- Sygate Personal Firewall 5.0
- Tiny Personal Firewall 2.0
- WyvernWorks Firewall 1.15
- ZoneAlarm 3.1.291

■ Rescue utilities
- ABF Outlook Express Backup 1.25
- Advanced Backup 1.8
- Final Data Enterprise 1.0
- Handy Backup 3.5
- ICQ Rescue 2000 2.0
- Recover4all 1.04
- SmartBackup 1.5

■ Spam prevention
- Active Email Monitor 2.91
- Email Remover 2.4
- Inbox Protector OE 2.0
- JunkMuncher 1.4.74
- MailSense 1.0
- MailTalkX 3.40
- Postal Inspector Outlook Express Edition 3.0
- Spam Buster 1.9
- Spam Proofer 1.1
- Spam Punisher 2.0
- SpamEater Pro 30.60
- SpamKiller 2.9
- Ad-aware 5.83
- Antiy Ghostbusters Professional Edition 3.31

■ Spyware removal
- BPS Spyware and Adware Remover 2.2
- PestPatrol 3.2
- StartPage Guard 2.0
- XCleaner Anti-Spyware 1.2

■ Mac software
- Agax 1.3
- BigSecret 4.2
- Cookie Commander 1.0.7
- Dr Solomon's Vires 5.9.1
- Free Backup 3.0
- Free Guard 1.5
- iClean 5.0
- Intego NetBarrier 2.1
- IP NetSentry 1.3.2
- MacWasher
- Norton Antivirus
- PGPFreeware 7.0.3
- Pop-Up Zapper 1.0
- SafeMail 2
- Sentry 4.0.3
- Web Confidential 3.0.4

How to use this month's free CD

THE MINIMUM RECOMMENDED specification to run the *Practical Internet* CD is 800 X 600 screen resolution, 32Mb RAM, 16-bit colour, Windows 95/98/Me, Intel Pentium or compatible P166. We recommend that all users shut down all other applications while running the CD.

The CD will autorun in Windows 95/98. For users without autorun enabled go to the start menu, select RUN and then type d:\PracticalInternet.exe (replacing 'd' with the letter of your CD drive) and press 'Return'.

Damaged discs

We will be pleased to replace any CD that is cracked, scratched or snapped upon purchase. Return them to the following address: Cover Disc Returns, Paragon Publishing, Paragon House, St Peter's Road, Bournemouth, BH1 2JS. If you experience technical problems, not due to physical damage on the CD, please DO NOT return any discs to us unless requested by the support team.

Missing discs

If you have purchased the magazine and have not received your CD, we will be happy to send you out a replacement disc. Email **subs@paragon.co.uk** quoting the magazine and issue number, along with your full postal address and daytime phone number.

Problems using the disc

If you encounter problems using the CD or installing the software you can email **cdhelp@paragon.co.uk**. Questions will be answered twice daily.

Please provide us with as much information about the technical specifications of your machine and the software errors you are receiving as well as quoting the magazine and issue number in your email.

Our helpdesk team will be taking calls about disc installation problems on Wednesday afternoons between 2 and 6pm. Phone 01202 200259.

NOTE: This service can only deal with problems when installing software from our CDs. Issues surrounding the use and purchase of software and all ISP queries must be referred to the relevant software publisher, merchant or ISP. Please note that we do not support Windows 3.1/ Windows 95/ Windows NT or Windows 2000 Operating Systems.

The CD logo

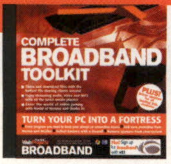
Look out for this logo in the magazine. It tells you which of the programs mentioned in features, or explored in tutorials, are on the *Practical Internet* cover CD-ROM.

Practical Internet IT'S ON THE CD

NEW! Everything you need to know about broadband Internet access

Practical Web Projects

The complete, jargon-free guide to…



PLUS: FREE CD! Packed with Broadband resources

BROADBAND

Your hands-on guide to the best Web creation software

Windows Mac

NEW! Everything you need to know about broadband Internet access

PLUS: FREE CD! Packed with broadband accessories

Practical Web Projects The complete, jargon-free guide to…

BROADBAND

Windows Mac

PLUS! Huge 14-page ISP buyers' guide

The UK's only guide to high-speed Internet access

WARP SPEED INTERNET

- Setting up your connection
- Buying the right kit
- Picking the right ISP
- Troubleshooting advice

100 pages of help

GET MAXIMUM VALUE FROM YOU HIGH-SPEED INTERNET CONNECTION

- Every broadband ISP listed & rated
- DSL hardware tested to destruction
- Discover the world of file-sharing
- All the hottest Internet destinations
- How to get even more bandwidth!
- Get to grips with online gaming

"excite, enthuse and inform"

PARAGON PUBLISHING Issue 5

£5.99

COVERS AD E, SATELLITE & WIRELESS

wsagent for one now!

COMPLETE BROADBAND TOOLKIT

- Share and download files with the hottest file-sharing clients around
- Enjoy streaming audio, video and MP3 with all the latest media players
- Enter the world of online gaming with Medal of Honour and Quake III

PLUS! Driver updates for all leading DSL modems

TURN YOUR PC INTO A FORTRESS

- Every program you need to keep your always on connection secure
- Anti virus protection from Norton and McAfee
- Defeat hackers with a firewall
- Remove spyware from your system

This Windows and Mac CD free th Practical Web Projects issue 5

BAND

Plus! Sign up for Broadband with v21

- In-depth guides to setting up your broadband kit
- Huge ISP buyers' guide
- Broadband workshops
- DSL modems on test
- Free CD packed with driver files, Net utilities and games demos

OUT NOW!

GET TO GRIPS WITH BROADBAND

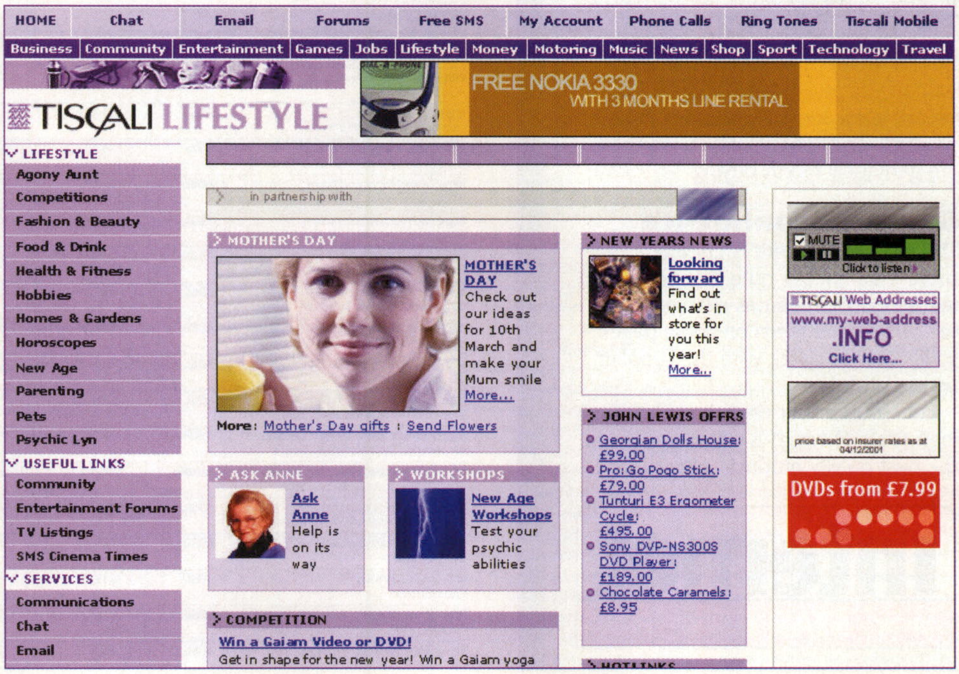
CALL 01454 642442 TO RESERVE YOUR COPY

Tiscali 10.0

The next-generation Internet service

Tiscali 10.0 is the fast and reliable Internet service from Tiscali – Europe's leading ISP

TISCALI


HOME | Chat | Email | Forums | Free SMS | My Account | Phone Calls | Ring Tones | Tiscali Mobile
Business | Community | Entertainment | Games | Jobs | Lifestyle | Money | Motoring | Music | News | Shop | Sport | Technology | Travel
TISCALI LIFESTYLE
FREE NOKIA 3330
WITH 3 MONTHS LINE RENTAL
LIFESTYLE
Agony Aunt
Competitions
Fashion & Beauty
Food & Drink
Health & Fitness
Hobbies
Homes & Gardens
Horoscopes
New Age
Parenting
Pets
Psychic Lyn
USEFUL LINKS
Community
Entertainment Forums
TV Listings
SMS Cinema Times
SERVICES
Communications
Chat
Email
in partnership with
MUTE
Click to listen
TISCALI Web Addresses
www.my-web-address
.INFO
Click Here...
price based on insurer rates as at 04/12/2001
DVDs from £7.99
HOTLINKS

MOTHER'S DAY

MOTHER'S DAY Check out our ideas for 10th March and make your Mum smile More...

More: Mother's Day gifts : Send Flowers

NEW YEARS NEWS

Looking forward Find out what's in store for you this year! More...

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- Georgian Dolls House: £99.00
- Pro:Go Pogo Stick: £79.00
- Tunturi E3 Ergometer Cycle: £495.00
- Sony DVP-NS300S DVD Player: £189.00
- Chocolate Caramels: £8.95

ASK ANNE

Ask Anne Help is on its way

WORKSHOPS

New Age Workshops Test your psychic abilities

COMPETITION

Win a Gaiam Video or DVD!

Get in shape for the new year! Win a Gaiam yoga

THE EXCLUSIVE TISCALI 10.0 browser gives you instant access to all our products and services, making the Internet rewarding, easy and fun! Browse wherever you want on the Internet while your email account and the rest of Tiscali 10.0 remains at your fingertips.

Choose from the no-monthly-fee Pay As You Go service or our range of great value all-inclusive packages including broadband!

Speed, reliability and everything you need from an Internet service

On top of an Internet service that's fast and reliable, Tiscali 10.0 provides up to 100Mb of FREE Web space and a feature-packed Webmail system. With Tiscali Mail you can verify email addresses, check your spelling before sending messages, save draft documents, filter emails automatically and store your messages in online folders.

Share your passions, time and friendships

You need never worry about forgetting a birthday or anniversary again with Tiscali 10.0's Calendar. You can manage your appointments online and set up reminders that are emailed or texted to you automatically, and even share your online calendar with others so you can co-ordinate your plans and avoid double-booking.

Tiscali Messenger is the quick, convenient way to chat to friends online and meet new people, and People & Chat is the place to go to join the vibrant Tiscali 10.0 community, meet new friends, chat, argue and joke. We've got the latest technology to help you find the right people and discussions – you can join existing discussions and chat rooms or create your own.

Telephone, mobile, text and PC

Get more from your phone with Tiscali 10.0. Tiscali Mobile forwards your emails as text messages to your mobile, and if you have a WAP phone you can access our dedicated mobile site and browse the Internet, download maps, check your emails and read attachments. Out and about? Send and receive email from your phone or mobile with Tiscali by Phone. You can dictate messages to send and listen to your incoming email – its quick and simple! You can also send 10 text messages a day from your computer to any UK mobile phone, absolutely FREE.

15 superb content channels

Find out what's in the stars with our daily updated horoscopes, keep track of your shares with our portfolio manager, find out what's on with our interactive TV guide, find a partner in our safe and easy Dating Club, plus shopping bargains, news, sport and more...

Try Tiscali today!

Just load the cover CD on the front of this issue or call for your free Internet start-up pack on

0800 111 210

TISCALI

Buyers' guide

A comprehensive resource covering Internet service providers and the very best Net software and hardware. Compare them all at a glance…

Using this guide

BUYING NEW HARDWARE and software for your PC or Mac can be a tricky task. You often have to choose between products which cost the same price and seem to offer identical features. What's more, high street shops encourage you to spend a little more on buying higher spec products than you really need.

This is why *Practical Internet*'s Buyers' Guide is so useful. It's been written with everyday Net users like you in mind and only includes the products and services which we think are genuinely worth buying.

Buy with confidence

The information here is updated every month, but please note that prices and features do sometimes change before we can amend them on these pages – so it's best to check with the supplier before buying.

Look out for our cherished Star Buy logo (below) which is only awarded to the best quality products around.

Practical internet ★★ STAR BUY ★★

Which ISP?

With thousands of ISPs all offering great-looking deals, it's tough to find the right service. This guide helps decide which is best for you

BROADBAND AND ADSL SERVICES

GET SUPER-FAST, ALWAYS-ON NET ACCESS FROM THESE BROADBAND SERVICE PROVIDERS. COSTS SHOWN ARE MONTHLY

NAME AND URL	TYPE	MONTHLY COST	SET-UP COST	EMAILS	WEB SPACE	NEWSGROUPS	CONTENTION RATIO
Abel Always USB http://www.ablealways.co.uk	ADSL	£49.94	£88.13	999	50	Yes	50:1
Andrews & Arnold Home 500 off-peak (Self-Install) http://www.aa.nu	ADSL	£35.00	£117.50	999	999	Yes	50:1
AOL Broadband http://www.aol.com	ADSL	£34.99	£25.00	7	14	Yes	50:1
blueyonder Broadband Internet http://www.blueyonder.co.uk	Cable	£33.00	£50.00	15	30	Yes	N/A
BTopenworld home500 (Engineer assisted) http://www.btopenworld.com	ADSL	£29.99	£250.00	10	20	Yes	50:1
BTopenworld Home 500 Plug & Go (Self-Install) http://www.btopenworld.com	ADSL	£29.99	£85.00	10	20	Yes	20:1
BTopenworld Business 500 Plug & Go (Self-Install) http://www.btopenworld.com	ADSL	£35.24	£99.88	10	20	Yes	20:1
BTopenworld business500 http://www.btopenworld.com	ADSL	£35.24	£246.75	10	20	Yes	20:1
BTopenworld business500PLUS http://www.btopenworld.com	ADSL	£93.99	£305.50	10	20	Yes	20:1
BTopenworld business1000PLUS http://www.btopenworld.com	ADSL	£140.99	£305.50	10	20	Yes	20:1
BTopenworld business2000PLUS http://www.btopenworld.com	ADSL	£176.24	£305.50	10	20	Yes	20:1
BTopenworld Business Satellite 500/1 http://www.btopenworld.com/satellite	Satellite	£70.49	£1,056.33	20	20	Yes	20:1
BTopenworld Business Satellite 500/4 http://www.btopenworld.com/satellite	Satellite	£129.24	£1,526.33	100	20	Yes	20:1
CharityDAYS Home ADSL Self-Install http://www.charitydays.net	ADSL	£27.99	£58.75	999	250	Yes	20:1
CharityDAYS Donate At Work Professional http://www.charitydays.net	ADSL	£58.75	£176.25	999	250	Yes	20:1
ClaraDSL Solo http://www.clara.net	ADSL	£49.99	£176.25	999	50	Yes	50:1
ClaraDSL 500 http://www.clara.net	ADSL	£117.50	£305.50	15	80	Yes	20:1
ClaraDSL 1000 http://www.clara.net	ADSL	£176.25	£305.50	15	80	Yes	20:1

Seven steps to pick your ideal Internet service provider

1 Choose your ISP type

UNMETERED ISPS make a monthly subscription charge, but you are not billed for any Net phone charges.

FREE ISPS don't charge monthly subscription rates, but you pay local phone rates when online.

PAY ISPS make a monthly subscription charge. You also pay local phone rates when online. They are generally faster and more reliable, though.

2 Is FRIACO for me?

FRIACO (or Flat Rate Internet Access Call Origination) is a form of wholesale Net access that costs ISPs 60-80% less than before. FRIACO ISPs are usually more financially stable and reliable than their troubled freephone predecessors.

3 Getting speedy help

If you're new to the Internet, you will make lots of calls to the ISP's telephone helpline – so pick one with low-cost support.

4 Enjoy Net gaming?

If you're a keen online game player, a dedicated fast service provider is absolutely essential. GamesWorld (**www.games-world.net**) is one of several services that supports Quake, for example.

5 No Windows? No probs!

Freeserve, BT Click and Demon work well with Linux, while Mac users should consider Madasafish, Demon, AOL or AbelGratis.

6 Building a Web site?

If you want to build a Web site, check an ISP offers free Web space. Some provide unlimited space (though 10Mb should be ample) while others offer free domain names.

7 Get global email

If your Internet service provider offers a Webmail service you'll be able to access your email from anywhere in the world through a Web browser. This is handy for travellers and business people. Having said that, many travellers get by with a third-party Web mail service like Hotmail, as this also lets you send and receive email via any Net-connected computer around the world.

NAME AND URL	TYPE	MONTHLY COST	SET-UP COST	EMAILS	WEB SPACE	NEWSGROUPS	CONTENTION RATIO
ClaraDSL 2000 http://www.clara.net	ADSL	£235.00	£305.50	15	80	Yes	20:1
Demon Express http://www.demon.net	ADSL	£28.99	£210.00	999	20	Yes	50:1
Demon Express Solo (Self-Install) http://www.demon.net	ADSL	£28.99	£50.00	999	20	Yes	50:1
Easynet DSL500 http://www.uk.easynet.net	ADSL	£92.83	£346.63	10	0	Yes	20:1
Easynet DSL1000 http://www.uk.easynet.net	ADSL	£116.33	£346.63	10	0	Yes	20:1
Easynet DSL2000 http://www.uk.easynet.net	ADSL	£139.83	£346.63	10	0	Yes	20:1
Eclipse ADSL Connect 500lite (Self-Install) http://www.eclipse.net.uk	ADSL	£26.73	£58.75	999	25	Yes	50:1
Eclipse Internet (business) 0512Kbps http://www.eclipse.net.uk	ADSL	£72.85	£176.25	999	20	Yes	50:1
Europe Online http://www.europeonline.com	Satellite	£6.36	£0.00	5	0	Yes	20:1
Freedom2Surf Home 512 http://www.freedom2surf.net	ADSL	£22.50	£293.75	20	20	Yes	50:1
Freedom2Surf Pure IP 500 (Self-Install) http://www.freedom2surf.net	ADSL	£22.50	£70.49	20	20	Yes	20:1
FreeservePlus Home (Self-Install) http://www.freeserve.com	ADSL	£29.99	£84.99	999	15	Yes	50:1
FreeservePlus Business 512Kbps http://www.freeserve.com	ADSL	£111.61	£305.50	999	15	Yes	20:1
FreeservePlus Business 1Mbps http://www.freeserve.net	ADSL	£158.61	£305.50	999	15	Yes	20:1
FreeservePlus Business 2Mbps http://www.freeserve.com	ADSL	£217.36	£305.50	999	15	Yes	20:1
Inweb (home user) 0512Kbps http://www.inweb.net.uk	ADSL	£28.99	£76.38	999	10	Yes	50:1
Inweb (business user) 0512Kbps http://www.inweb.net.uk	ADSL	£117.49	£323.12	999	10	Yes	20:1
Inweb (business) 1Mbps http://www.inweb.net.uk	ADSL	£187.99	£323.13	999	10	Yes	50:1
Inweb (business) 2Mbps http://www.inweb.net.uk	ADSL	£293.74	£323.13	999	10	Yes	20:1
Kingston Karoo RapidTime (Residential) http://www.kcltd.co.uk	ADSL	£38.99	£150.00	999	20	Yes	6:1
Mailbox HomeWire 500 (Self-Install) http://www.mailbox.net.uk	ADSL	£34.08	£70.50	10	25	Yes	50:1
Mailbox Standard Connect 500 http://www.mailbox.net.uk	ADSL	£34.08	£246.75	10	25	Yes	50:1
Mailbox BusinessWire 500 (Self-Install) http://www.mailbox.net.uk	ADSL	£88.13	£70.50	10	25	Yes	50:1
netAxis ADSL 500 Single http://www.netaxis.co.uk	ADSL	£29.32	£58.75	999	25	Yes	20:1
Nildram Home500 Lite (Self-Install) http://www.getadsl.co.uk	ADSL	£25.99	£58.75	999	10	Yes	20:1
Nildram Home500A (Self-Install) http://www.getadsl.co.uk	ADSL	£29.99	£58.75	999	10	Yes	50:1
Nildram Home500 (Self-Install) http://www.getadsl.co.uk	ADSL	£35.99	£58.75	999	10	Yes	50:1
NTL 128K http://www.ntl.co.uk	Cable	£14.99	£75.00	5	10	Yes	20:1
OneTel Unplugged 500 Plug & Play (Self-Install) http://www.onetelbroadband.com	ADSL	£27.99	£60.00	1	0	No	20:1
PIPEX Xtreme Solo (Self-Install) http://www.dsl.pipex.net	ADSL	£23.44	£0.00	12	50	Yes	20:1
PIPEX Xtreme Home Office (Self-Install) http://www.xtreme.pipex.net	ADSL	£29.32	£70.50	12	50	Yes	20:1
PIPEX Xtreme Home Office http://www.dsl.pipex.net	ADSL	£52.86	£188.00	12	50	Yes	20:1
PIPEX Xtreme Business 500 (Self-Install) http://www.xtreme.pipex.net	ADSL	£104.58	£70.50	12	50	Yes	20:1
PlusNet ADSL Home http://www.plus.net	ADSL	£22.99	£175.00	999	250	Yes	50:1
PlusNet ADSL Home - Self Install http://www.plus.net	ADSL	£22.99	£58.75	999	250	Yes	50:1
PlusNet ADSL Office 500 - Self Install http://www.plus.net	ADSL	£64.63	£58.75	999	250	Yes	50:1
PlusNet ADSL 1000 http://www.plus.net	ADSL	£105.75	£305.50	999	500	Yes	20:1
Realtouch (business) http://www.realtouch.net	Satellite	£411.25	£4,694.13	999	0	Yes	20:1
Skystorm http://www.skystorm.net	Satellite	£17.63	£0.00	0	0	No	20:1
Sonnet Internet Professional 500 Self-Install http://www.sonnetinternet.co.uk	ADSL	£29.38	£70.50	500	100	Yes	50:1
Sonnet Internet Office 500 Self-Install http://www.sonnetinternet.co.uk	ADSL	£76.38	£70.50	500	250	Yes	20:1
Tiscali (consumer) http://www.tiscali.co.uk	ADSL	£29.99	£210.00	999	50	Yes	50:1
Xantic http://www.xanticbroadband.com	Satellite	£29.38	£180.95	0	0	No	50:1
ZenADSL Home (Self-Install) http://www.zenadsl.com	ADSL	£29.99	£58.75	5	50	Yes	50:1
ZenADSL Single-User 512Kbps http://www.zenadsl.com	ADSL	£29.99	£176.25	5	50	Yes	50:1
ZenADSL Office 500 (Self-Install) http://www.zenadsl.com	ADSL	£70.50	£58.75	5	50	Yes	50:1

TOP BUYS

Web site builders

Dreamweaver MX

£352.31
www.macromedia.com

DREAMWEAVER MX
macromedia
DREAMWEAVER
MX

What's good? Reaches new levels of usability, all you need to create dynamic Web sites

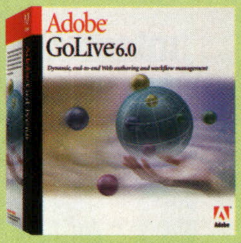
What's bad? HTML die hards may feel a little bit left out

Telephone: 0800 8358 5857

Verdict: ★★★★

Adobe GoLive 6

£229
www.adobe.com



What's good? Delivers superb results and allows you to create content for numerous different platforms

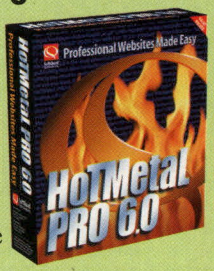
What's bad? It isn't cheap, some areas of the program still more baffling than Dreamweaver

Telephone: 020 8606 4001

Verdict: ★★★★

HoTMetaL Pro 6

£79
www.hotmetalpro.com



What's good? Inexpensive program with expensive-looking features

What's bad? The integration of HTML coding might bamboozle beginners

Telephone: 020 8387 4110

Verdict: ★★★★

Flash MX

£369
www.macromedia.com

Practical
internet
★★ STAR BUY ★★
FLASH MX
macromedia
FLASH
MX

What's good? The totally revamped interface is superior to its predecessors, plenty of new tools

What's bad? Still a bit expensive

Telephone: 0800 8358 5857

Verdict: ★★★★★

Net 4 Nowt
IN ASSOCIATION WITH
www.net4nowt.com

Buyers' guide

Which ISP?

TOP BUYS

Web image editors

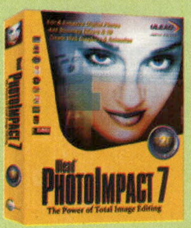


Photo Impact 7

£89

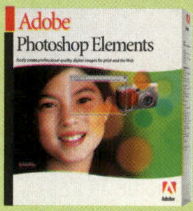
www.ulead.co.uk

What's good? Extremely comprehensive graphics package for the price

What's bad? It's not Photoshop

Email: info@ulead.de

Verdict: ★★★★★



Adobe Photoshop Elements

£79

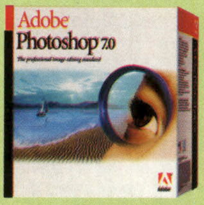
www.adobe.com

What's good? The greatest graphics program on the go. Cheap too!

What's bad? This is an excellent all-round package suitable for all levels of PC user, but it lacks professional publishing tools

Telephone: 020 8606 4000

Verdict: ★★★★★



Adobe Photoshop 7

£586.33

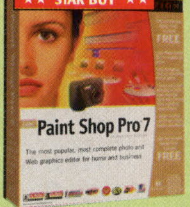
www.adobe.com

What's good? A truly amazing set of tools for graphic professionals

What's bad? Expensive and still a little complicated in some areas

Telephone: 020 8606 4001

Verdict: ★★★★



JASC Paint Shop Pro 7 AE

£79+VAT

www.digitalworkshop.co.uk

What's good? Cheap, intuitive and easy to use. A dream for those new to the world of graphics

What's bad? Doesn't offer the same depth of features as Adobe's Photoshop

Telephone: 01295 258335

Verdict: ★★★★★

UNMETERED INTERNET PROVIDERS

NEVER SPEND MONEY ON YOUR INTERNET PHONE CALLS AGAIN WITH THESE UNMETERED ISPS. (COSTS ARE MONTHLY)

NAME AND URL	COST	FRIACO	BT LINE REQUIRED	UNMETERED AVAILABILITY	WEB SPACE	NEWSGROUPS	SUPPORT COSTS
0800Dial Business Class http://www.0800dial.com	£21.14	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
0800Dial Home User http://www.0800dial.com	£12.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
0800onlineserve http://www.0800.onlineserve.co.uk	£14.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	10	Yes	Free
123ISP http://www.123isp.co.uk	£13.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	10	Yes	National Rate
24-7Freecall http://www.24-7freecall.net	£14.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	10	Yes	National Rate
4theNet Unlimited http://www.4thenet.co.uk	£12.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
Abel DIAL Leisuretime http://www.abel.co.uk	£11.99	No	No	General Off-Peak	50	Yes	Premium - 25p
Affinity http://www.affinity.uk.com/surftime.htm	£25.99	No	Yes	24 Hours	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
AOL http://www.aol.co.uk	£15.99	No	No	24 Hours	14	Yes	Free
Arsenal AnyTime http://www.arsenal.com	£12.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
Asian Biz HomeTime http://www.asian-biz.net	£12.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
Asian Biz SurfTime Evenings & Weekends http://www.asian-biz.net	£9.99	No	Yes	General Off-Peak	10	Yes	National Rate
Barclaycard.net http://www.barclaycard.net	£12.95	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	20	Yes	Premium - 50p
Black Britain - Surf Business Unlimited http://www.blackbritain.co.uk	£11.75	Yes	Yes	08:00 - 18:00 Monday to Friday	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
Black Britain - Surf Unlimited Gold http://www.blackbritain.co.uk	£14.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
blueyonder SurfUnlimited http://www.blueyonder.co.uk	£12.00	No	No	24 Hours	30	Yes	Premium - 50p
Breathe Unlimited http://www.breathe.com	£12.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
BT Connect http://www.btclickforbusiness.com	£31.74	No	Yes	24 Hours	20	Yes	Local Rate
BT Connect Lite http://www.btclickforbusiness.com	£10.69	No	Yes	General Off-Peak	20	Yes	Premium - 50p
BTopenworld Anytime http://www.btopenworld.com	£15.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	50	Yes	Premium - 50p
BTopenworld for BT Surf http://www.btopenworld.com	£11.98	No	Yes	General Off-Peak	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
Chalkface Business Unlimited http://www.chalkface.net	£12.91	Yes	Yes	08:00 - 18:00 Monday to Friday	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
CharityDAYS Donate Surf Lite http://www.charitydays.net	£8.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	250	Yes	Local Rate
CharityDAYS Donate Surf Standard http://www.charitydays.net	£16.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	250	Yes	Local Rate
ClaraNET FreeTime 12 http://www.clara.net	£4.99	Yes	Yes	General Off-Peak	50	Yes	Local Rate
ClaraNET FreeTime 35 http://www.clara.net	£14.99	Yes	Yes	General Off-Peak	50	Yes	Local Rate
ClaraNET FreeTime AnyTime http://www.clara.net	£14.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	50	Yes	Local Rate
ClaraNET FreeTime Unlimited http://www.clara.net	£9.99	Yes	Yes	18:00 - 02:00 Monday to Friday + all w/e	50	Yes	Local Rate
Demon Premier Connect http://www.fast24.co.uk	£15.00	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
Fast24 Off Peak http://www.fast24.co.uk	£7.00	Yes	Yes	General Off-Peak	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
Fasthosts FreeCall Home http://dial.fasthosts.co.uk	£17.61	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	200	Yes	Standard BT
Firenet Anytime Plus http://www.firenet.uk.net	£13.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
Free24-7 http://www.free24-7.net	£7.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	0	Yes	National Rate
Freechariot FC Business Unlimited http://www.freechariot.co.uk	£12.99	Yes	Yes	06:00 - 18:00 Monday to Friday	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
Freechariot FC Universal 24/7 http://www.freechariot.co.uk	£16.49	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
Freechariot FC Unlimited http://www.freechariot.co.uk	£13.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
Freedom2Surf Anytime http://www.freedom2surf.net	£11.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	20	Yes	Standard BT
Freedom2Surf Unlimited http://www.freedom2surf.net	£96.37	No	Yes	24 Hours	25	Yes	Standard BT
Free-Online Connect Biz http://www.free-online.co.uk	£39.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	500	Yes	Local Rate
Free-Online Connect BizLite http://www.free-online.co.uk	£19.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	500	Yes	Local Rate
Free-Online Connect Lite http://www.free-online.co.uk	£8.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	250	Yes	Local Rate
Free-Online Connect Standard http://www.free-online.co.uk	£14.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	250	Yes	Local Rate
Freeserve Anytime http://www.freeserve.com	£13.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	15	Yes	Premium - 50p
Freeserve HomeTime http://www.freeserve.com	£12.99	No	Yes	General Off-Peak	15	Yes	Premium - 50p

IN ASSOCIATION WITH
www.net4nowt.com

NAME AND URL	COST	FRIACO	BT LINE REQUIRED	UNMETERED AVAILABILITY	WEB SPACE	NEWSGROUPS	SUPPORT COSTS
Madasafish http://www.madasafish.com	£14.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	10	Yes	Premium - 25p
Metro800 Business Gold http://www.metronet.co.uk	£18.79	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
Metro800 Business Unlimited http://www.metronet.co.uk	£12.91	Yes	Yes	06:00 - 18:00 Monday to Friday	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
NildramSurftime http://www.getsurftime.co.uk	£17.74	No	Yes	General Off-Peak	25	Yes	Standard BT
NildramSurftimePlus http://www.getsurftime.co.uk	£43.49	No	Yes	24 Hours	25	Yes	Standard BT
nStream http://www.nstream.co.uk	£12.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	25	No	Standard BT
ntlworld http://www.ntlworld.com	£10.00	No	No	24 Hours	10	Yes	Premium - £1.00
OneTel http://www.onetel.co.uk	£12.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
OnlineServe Internet Anytime http://www.onlineserve.co.uk	£14.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	10	Yes	Free
PlusNet Connect Always On http://www.plus.net	£99.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	250	Yes	Local Rate
PlusNet Connect Biz http://www.plus.net	£39.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	500	Yes	Local Rate
PlusNet Connect Biz Always On http://www.plus.net	£119.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	500	Yes	Local Rate
PlusNet Connect Biz Lite http://www.plus.net	£19.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	500	Yes	Local Rate
PlusNet Connect Heavy User http://www.plus.net	£29.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	250	Yes	Local Rate
PlusNet Connect Lite User http://www.plus.net	£8.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	250	Yes	Local Rate
PlusNet Connect Standard http://www.plus.net	£14.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	250	Yes	Local Rate
Powergen Anytime http://www.pgen.net	£13.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	10	Yes	National Rate
Powergen Daytime http://www.pgen.net	£9.99	Yes	Yes	06:00 - 18:00 Monday to Friday	10	Yes	National Rate
Powergen Evenings & Weekends http://www.pgen.net	£9.99	Yes	Yes	16:00 - 08:00 Monday to Friday + all w/e	10	Yes	National Rate
Silvermead Unlimited @ Home http://www.silvermead.net	£13.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
Silvermead Unlimited @ Work http://www.silvermead.net	£12.91	Yes	Yes	08:00 - 18:00 Monday to Friday	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
SniffOut DreamTime http://www.sniffout.net	£19.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	999	Yes	Local Rate
SniffOut PeakTime http://www.sniffout.net	£11.99	Yes	Yes	08:00 - 18:00 Monday to Friday	999	Yes	Local Rate
SniffOut SmartTime http://www.sniffout.net	£12.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	999	Yes	Premium - 50p
SniffOut TimeOut http://www.sniffout.net	£8.99	Yes	Yes	16:00 - 08:00 Monday to Friday + all w/e	999	Yes	Premium - 50p
SupaNet Supahighway http://www.supahighway.com	£14.99	No	Yes	24 Hours	20	Yes	Premium - 50p
SurfAnytime Business Unlimited One http://www.surfanytime.co.uk	£11.75	Yes	Yes	08:00 - 18:00 Monday to Saturday	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
SurfAnytime Gold http://www.surfanytime.co.uk	£15.49	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
SurfAnytime HomeTime http://www.surfanytime.co.uk	£4.99	Yes	Yes	12:00 - 17:00	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
SurfAnytime OffPeak http://www.surfanytime.co.uk	£9.99	Yes	Yes	16:00 - 08:00 Monday to Friday + all w/e	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
SurfAnytime Silver http://www.surfanytime.co.uk	£12.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	10	Yes	Premium - 50p
Tiny T:Surf Value http://www.tinyonline.net	£8.99	Yes	Yes	16:00 - 08:00 Monday to Friday + all w/e	15	Yes	Premium - 50p
TinyT:SurfPlus http://www.tinyonline.net/tsurf	£14.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	15	Yes	Premium - 50p
Tiscali Anytime http://www.tiscali.co.uk	£14.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	50	Yes	Premium - 50p
Tiscali Daytime http://www.tiscali.co.uk	£5.99	Yes	Yes	08:00 - 18:00 Monday to Friday	50	Yes	Premium - 50p
Tiscali Offpeak http://www.tiscali.co.uk	£11.99	Yes	Yes	General Off-Peak	50	Yes	Premium - 50p
TotalServe Ultimate Express http://www.totalserve.co.uk	£2.34	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	999	Yes	Premium - 50p
TotalServe UltimateSurf 24/7 http://www.totalserve.co.uk	£12.97	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	999	Yes	Premium - 50p
TotalServe UltimateSurf Day (multi) http://www.totalserve.co.uk	£35.24	Yes	Yes	08:00 - 18:00 Monday to Friday	999	Yes	Premium - 50p
TotalServe UltimateSurf Day (single) http://www.totalserve.co.uk	£29.37	Yes	Yes	08:00 - 18:00 Monday to Friday	999	Yes	Premium - 50p
Totalserve UltimateSurf Lite http://www.totalserve.co.uk	£8.22	Yes	Yes	General Off-Peak	999	Yes	Premium - 50p
UKStamp Business http://www.ukstamp.co.uk	£12.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	999	Yes	Standard BT
UKStamp Residential http://www.ukstamp.co.uk	£8.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	0	Yes	N/A
V21 Standard http://www.v21.co.uk	£14.99	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	999	Yes	Premium - £1.00
Virgin.net 24seven http://www.virgin.net	£13.00	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	10	Yes	Premium - £1.00
Vispa Connect Anytime http://www.vispaconnect.co.uk	£14.95	Yes	Yes	24 Hours	15	Yes	National Rate

TOP BUYS

Digital cameras

Nikon Coolpix 880

£680

www.nikon.co.uk

Nikon
Practical
internet
★★ STAR BUY ★★

What's good? Impressive 3.34 megapixel count. Loads of features. Compact and nice to handle

What's bad? It's not that cheap

Telephone: 0800 230 220

Verdict: ★★★★★

Canon Digital Ixus

£439

www.canon.co.uk

Canon
DIGITAL IXUS

What's good? Small and stylish. Good zoom lens. Excellent image quality

What's bad? Could get lost quite easily

Telephone: 0121 6808062

Verdict: ★★★★

Rioch Caplio RR1

£749.99

www.rioch.co.uk

What's good? A sleek slimline camera with oodles of quality to boot

What's bad? Looks a bit cheap and the zoom is a little bit dodgy

Practical
internet
★★ STAR BUY ★★

Telephone: 01782 753300

Verdict: ★★★★★

Pentax Optio 330

£499

www.pentax.co.uk

PENTAX
Optio 330
Practical
internet
★★ STAR BUY ★★

What's good? Excellent features and options. Compact and cheap at the price

What's bad? Its bulk can be bothersome.

Telephone: 01753 792792

Verdict: ★★★★★

Net 4 Nowt IN ASSOCIATION WITH www.net4nowt.com

Buyers' guide

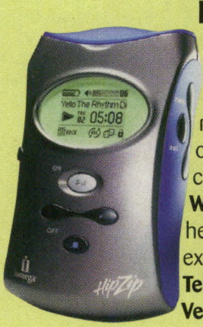
Which ISP?

TOP BUYS

MP3 Players

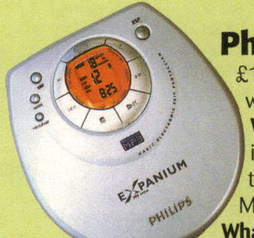
Apple iPod

£349.99
www.apple.com/uk
What's good? Brilliant sound quality and the best designed player on the market
What's bad? It isn't compatible with Windows and it's overpriced
Telephone: 0800 039 1010
Verdict: ★★★★



Iomega HipZip

£290
www.iomega-europe.com
What's good? Uses removable media instead of flash memory, which is cheaper
What's bad? Bulkier and heavier than the Rio, also expensive
Telephone: 020 7365 9527
Verdict: ★★★★



Philips EXP303

£119.99
www.philips.com
What's good? Stylish, inexpensive and easy to use. It actually plays MP3 CDs!
What's bad? Still relies on CDs to play music
Telephone: 020 8665 6350
Verdict: ★★★★

Samsung Yepp YP-NEU

£230
www.yepparty.com
What's good? Looks rather beautiful. Comes supplied with 64Mb of memory
What's bad? Poor sound. Sparse in terms of features. Limited information on the LCD display.
Telephone: 0800 521652
Verdict: ★★★★

PAY ISPs

WANT TO PAY FOR YOUR SERVICE PROVIDER AND BE ASSURED OF TOP QUALITY ACCESS? HERE ARE SOME OF THE BEST…

NAME AND URL	COST	EMAIL	WEB SPACE	SUPPORT COSTS	V.90	128K ISDN
Cablenet http://www.cablenet.net	£4.95	999	50	Standard BT	Yes	No
Community Internet http://www.community.net.uk	£9.69	999	25	Standard BT	Yes	Yes
CompuServe http://www.compuserve.co.uk	£7.50	7	Unknown	National Rate	Yes	No
Demon http://www.demon.net	£11.75	999	20	Local Rate	Yes	Yes
Easynet http://www.easynet.co.uk	£11.99	999	999	Local Rate	Yes	No
Force9 Lite http://www.force9.co.uk	£4.99	999	250	Local Rate	Yes	Yes
Free-Online Lite http://www.free-online.co.uk	£4.99	999	250	Local Rate	Yes	Yes
Mailbox Internet http://www.mailbox.net.uk	£10.00	5	15	National Rate	Yes	No
Netkonect.net http://www.netkonect.net	£16.58	999	999	National Rate	Yes	No
Nildram http://www.nildram.net	£5.88	999	25	Standard BT	Yes	No
PipexDial http://www.dial.pipex.com	£15.00	12	50	National Rate	Yes	Yes
PlusNet Netstart http://www.plus.net	£9.99	999	500	Local Rate	Yes	Yes
SAQInternet http://www.saqnet.co.uk	£11.25	999	5	National Rate	Yes	Yes
U-NET http://www.u-net.net	£12.00	999	25	Local Rate	Yes	Yes

FREE ISP DIRECTORY

YOUR AT-A-GLANCE GUIDE TO SUBSCRIPTION-FREE ISPS WHICH CHARGE ONLY FOR LOCAL CALL PHONE RATES

NAME AND URL	EMAIL	WEB SPACE	NEWSGROUPS	SUPPORT COSTS	V.90	128K ISDN
1jena http://www.1jenna.com	999	25	Yes	Local rate	Yes	Yes
4TheNet http://www.4thenet.co.uk	999	999	Yes	Premium - 75p	Yes	Yes
Abel GRATIS Plus http://www.abelgratis.co.uk	999	50	Yes	Premium - 25p	Yes	Yes
Ace Internet http://www.ace-internet.co.uk	10	5	Yes	National Rate	Yes	Yes
Alkazar Internet http://www.alkazar.net	5	999	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	No
Asian Biz http://www.asian-biz.net	15	10	Yes	National Rate	Yes	No
Barrys World http://www.barrysworld.com	999	0	Yes	N/A	Yes	No
blueyonder http://www.blueyonder.co.uk/dial	15	30	Yes	Free	Yes	Yes
Breathe Anywhere http://www.breathe.com	5	10	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	Yes
BT Access http://www.btclickforbusiness.com	10	20	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	No
BTopenworld Pay-as-you-go http://www.btopenworld.com	5	10	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	Yes
Callnet UK http://www.callnetuk.com	5	20	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	Yes
CharityDAYS Donate At Home Free http://www.charitydays.net	999	25	Yes	Local Rate	Yes	No
CharityDAYS Donate At Work Free http://www.charitydays.net	999	50	Yes	Local Rate	Yes	Yes
ClaraNET http://www.clara.net	999	10	Yes	Local Rate	Yes	Yes
Clearsignals http://www.clearsignals.net	999	25	Yes	Premium - 25p	Yes	Yes
Devilnet UK http://www.devilnet.co.uk	999	25	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	Yes
Earthlink http://www.earthlink.co.uk	999	25	No	Premium - 75p	Yes	Yes
Ecosse http://www.ecosse.net	999	999	No	N/A	Yes	Yes
Euphony.net http://www.euphony.net	999	999	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	Yes
Eurobell http://www.eurobell.net	999	5	Yes	Standard BT	Yes	No
Fasthosts LoCall http://dial.fasthosts.co.uk	999	200	Yes	Standard BT	Yes	No
Firenet http://www.firenet.ws	999	999	Yes	National	Yes	No
Fish http://www.fish.co.uk	999	0	Unknown	Premium - 50p	Yes	No
Free UK http://www.freeuk.net	999	25	Yes	Local Rate	Yes	No

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NAME AND URL	EMAIL	WEB SPACE	NEWSGROUPS	SUPPORT COSTS	V.90	128K ISDN
Freebeeb http://www.beeb.net	999	20	Yes	Premium - 60p	Yes	No
Freedom 2 Surf http://www.freedom2surf.net	999	25	Yes	Standard BT	Yes	Yes
FreeInternet http://www.free-internet.co.uk	1	10	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	No
Freeola.net http://www.freeola.net	999	25	Yes	National Rate	Yes	Yes
Free-Online Free http://www.free-online.co.uk	999	25	Yes	Local Rate	Yes	Yes
Freeserve http://www.freeserve.net	999	15	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	No
FreeUK http://www.freeuk.co.uk	999	25	Yes	Local Rate	Yes	No
Games-World http://www.games-world.net	1	10	Yes	National Rate	Yes	Yes
GayServe http://www.gayserve.co.uk	999	25	Yes	Premium - 25p	Yes	Yes
Genie Internet http://www.genie.co.uk	1	20	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	No
Get Free Internet http://www.getfreeinternet.co.uk	999	5	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	Yes
Gioserve http://www.gioserve.net	999	999	Yes	National Rate	Yes	Yes
Golfzone http://www.golfzone.co.uk	5	10	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	No
Go There Internet http://www.gothere.uk.com	999	999	Yes	Premium - 25p	Yes	Yes
Go-Legend http://www.go-legend.net	999	10	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	Yes
HBC21 http://www.hbc21.com	0	0	No	Unknown	Yes	No
IC24 http://www.ic24.net	1	10	No	Premium - 50p	Yes	No
Icom43 http://www.icom43.net	999	15	No	Premium - 75p	Yes	No
Inweb Networks http://www.inweb.co.uk	1	None	Yes	National Rate	Yes	Yes
Islam Direct http://www.islamdirect.com	5	20	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	Yes
JMacUnlimited http://www.macunlimited.net	999	25	Yes	National Rate	Yes	Yes
Jolt http://www.jolt.co.uk	999	999	No	N/A	Yes	No
Madasafish http://www.madasafish.com	999	999	Yes	Premium - 25p	Yes	No
Ministry of Sound http://www.ministryofsound.net	999	20	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	No
NASCR http://www.nascr.net	999	20	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	No
Natwest.com http://www.natwest.com	0	0	No	Premium - 50p	Yes	No
Netscape Online http://www.netscapeonline.co.uk	999	20	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	No
NHS People http://www.nhspeople.net	5	15	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	No
NTL World http://www.ntlworld.com	5	10	Yes	Premium - £1.00	Yes	No
PlusNet Free http://www.plus.net	999	25	Yes	Local Rate	Yes	Yes
Silvermead Free @ Home http://www.silvermead.net	15	10	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	Yes
Sniff Out Classic http://www.sniffout.net	999	50	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	Yes
Supanet Classic http://www.supanet.com	999	20	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	No
Surf&Save http://www.surfandsave.co.uk	5	10	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	No
SurfAnytime http://www.surfanytime.co.uk	15	10	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	No
Tellnet http://www.tellnet.co.uk	999	25	Yes	Local Rate	Yes	Yes
TescoNet http://www.tesco.net	5	10	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	No
The Mail http://www.themail.co.uk	1	50	Yes	Premium - 60p	Yes	No
Themutual.net http://www.themutual.net	5	25	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	Yes
Tiscali Classic http://www.tiscali.co.uk	999	50	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	No
Totalserve http://www.totalserve.co.uk	999	999	Yes	Premium - 50p	Yes	Yes
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VirginNet http://www.virgin.net	5	10	Yes	£1	Yes	No
Waitrose.com http://www.waitrose.com	999	20	Yes	Free	Yes	No
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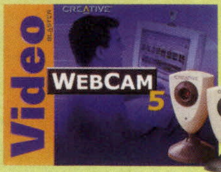

What's good? Impressively smooth video output and easy to configure

What's bad? The image resolution could be better, sometimes comes loose

Telephone: 00 353 1 4333200

Verdict: ★★★★

Creative Webcam Go Plus

£129
www.europe.creative.com

What's good? Innovative design. Can be used as a digital camera. Good range of features.

What's bad? Expensive. The digital camera aspect of the Go Plus is a tad gimmicky

Telephone: 01245 265265

Verdict: ★★★★

Sony CMR-PC2

£89.99
www.sonyisstorage.com

What's good? It's tiny, yet somehow manages to squeeze in the best picture quality we've seen yet

What's bad? It's a little bit fiddly to operate

Telephone: 00800 2623 7669

Verdict: ★★★★

Logitech ClckSmart 310

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www.logitech.com

What's good? Easy to get to grips with, affordable and fun to use

What's bad? Picture quality is far from stunning

Telephone: 01753 870900

Verdict: ★★★★

Back issues

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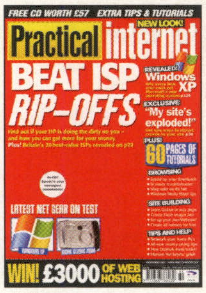

Issue 60

Are you really sure you're getting the best from your ISP? We reveal what level of service you should expect, and list alternatives if your ISP has failed to deliver.

- **Price: £5.99 incl. p&p**

Issue 61

Read our quick fixes that will transform your Web browser, email and Internet software. Fans of Dreamweaver should also check out our special tutorial.

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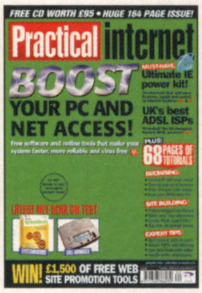

Issue 62

Make sure you get the most out of your Internet and PC connection with our feature. We show you which settings to tweak and what software to download.

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Issue 63

Considering all the expenses we encounter in everyday life, it's good to know that you can use the Net to save money – up to £2,000 in fact. We tell you how.

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Issue 64

Make sure you don't fall foul to Net nasties. Follow our guide to surviving viruses, spam, scams and much more. Plus, we review alternatives to Outlook Express.

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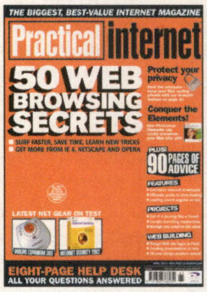

Issue 65

Become a Web browsing guru as we reveal 50 secrets to give your browser a boost. We also show how Photoshop Elements can transform your Web site.

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Issue 66

Thanks to a host of new affordable deals, you could be enjoying a broadband connection in no time. We look at DIY ADSL, and show you how to install it.

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Issue 67

We delve into the Net's underbelly to bring you a glimpse of who's in control. We also look at the top 101 free Net programs, all of which are on the cover CD.

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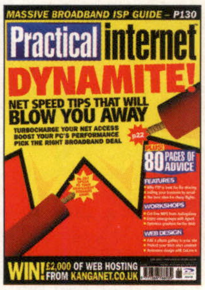

Issue 68

Make sure your Net connection is the quickest on the block with our essential speed tips. Also find out how to share files using the oft-forgotten craft of FTP.

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Issue 69

Make your home the hub of all things hotwired, with our in-depth feature. Anyone with a Web site should also read our tips for getting your site listed top on search engines.

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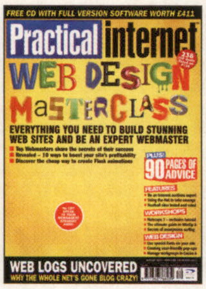

Issue 70

Become a Webmaster with our special issue dedicated to Web design. From promoting your site successfully to using the latest software, we bring you all you need to know.

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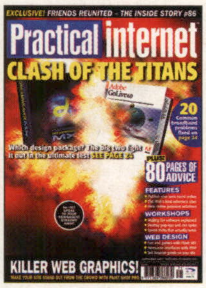

Issue 71

Forget Tyson v Lewis – the real clash of the titans is here. Watch as Dreamweaver MX and Adobe GoLive 6 slug it out to see who is the best Web design package.

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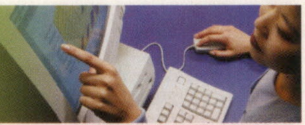

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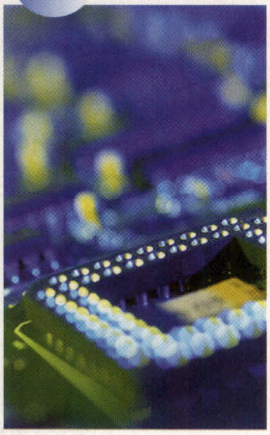

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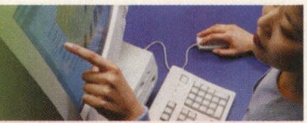

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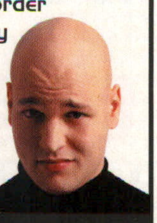

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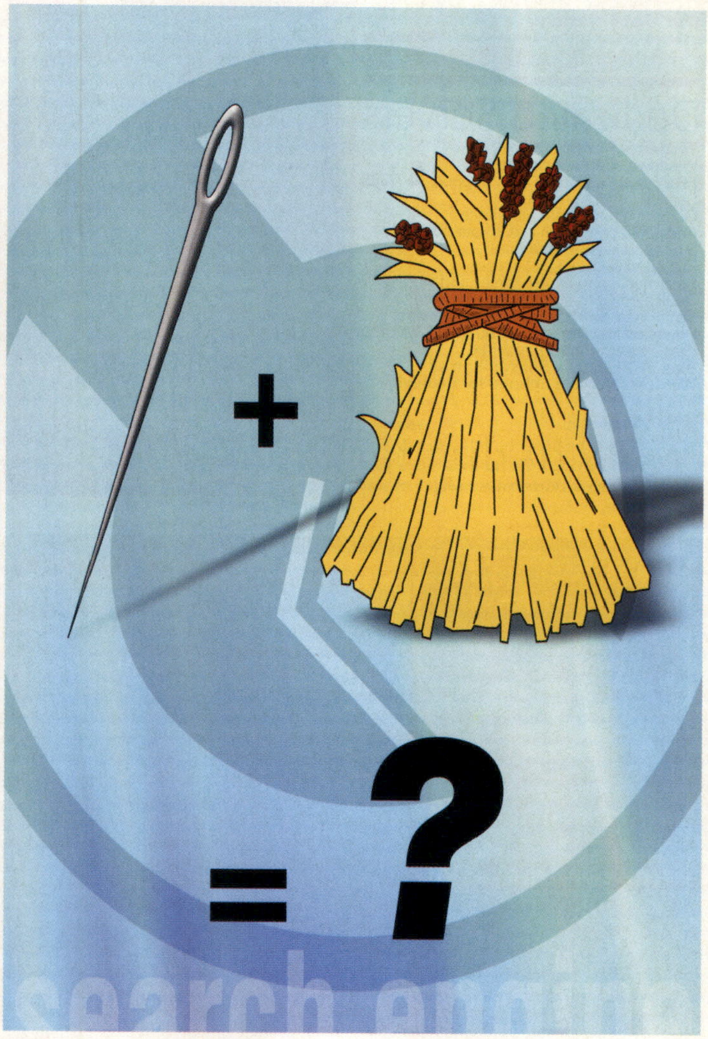

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Shutdown with Jo Cole

AS WELL AS being the greatest information resource in the universe, the Internet is also extremely handy to while away a few hours. Each issue, we look at sites that have encouraged us to forget about work for a while. If you have any favourite time-wasters, email **pixie@paragon.co.uk** with details

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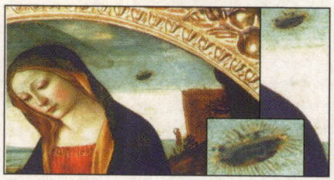
THANKS TO THE exploits of characters like Mulder and Scully, admitting you've seen a UFO is no longer a sure way of getting carted off to the funny farm. The whole world is well up for some alien encounters, no more so than on the Internet. Be it abductees or people determined to uncover what's behind UFOs, the truth is out there.

MUFON (**www.mufon.com**) is a worldwide organisation that's as respected as they come and has a healthy supply of information. For alien research closer to home, BUFORA (**www.bufora.org.uk**) can enlighten you as to the kinds of sightings and research being carried out in Britain.

They're here...

An excellent portal for alien shenanigans is UFOs and Extraterrestrials at **www.greatdreams.com/ufos.htm.** A not-so-quick scroll through the substantial main page uncovers all sorts, from mind control to crop circles to NASA cover-ups.



Does this 15th Century painting show a UFO? Matthew Hurley thinks it might

Matthew Hurley's site is worth a look (**http://homepage.ntlworld.com/m.hurley**). He studies artwork from different centuries that show the presence of UFOs. Some of the examples are very intriguing, especially the one showing a UFO shooting a beam of light on Mary. Was Jesus the result of some illicit alien probe? The answer might be found at **www.mt.net/~watcher/ufos.html** where it's argued that biblical angels and demons are actually aliens.

Marrs attacks

In addition to having a name that sounds the part, Jim Marrs (**www.jimmarrs.com**) is perfect for anyone who likes their aliens to be shrouded in government conspiracies. But if you fancy spreading a bit of disinformation yourself, pop along to **www.trudang.com/autopsy/autocont.html** for hints on how to create your own alien to carve up and film.

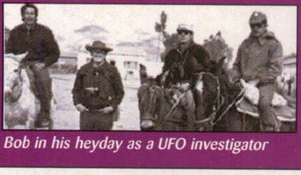
Go online and learn how to create your very own alien autopsy film

In the field

BOB PRATT OFFERS ADVICE TO ANYONE WANTING TO INVESTIGATE UFOS

"You have two goals when investigating a sighting: to determine if the witness is telling you the truth and to get the whole story.

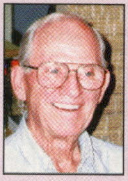
"You have to go to wherever people had sightings or encounters and talk to people, not just those who had the experiences. Neighbours, police and others can help you determine if the person is honest and truthful.



Bob in his heyday as a UFO investigator

"Ask the same question in several different ways to see if the answer is the same or if discrepancies slip in. If time permits, go back on another date until you are satisfied the witness' story is the same. It also gives you the chance to get further details and ask any questions you didn't ask the first time. I have never asked all the questions I should have asked on the first visit."

Word from the wise



WE SPOKE TO **BOB PRATT**, EX NATIONAL ENQUIRER JOURNALIST, ABOUT WHY HE USES THE NET FOR HIS UFO RESEARCH

Do you think the Net spreads as many untruths as truths?

"Even though there is a lot of nonsense on the Internet, I have no doubt that the Net has been a big boon to the study of UFOs. In a way never before possible, the Internet has brought together thousands of UFO researchers and people simply interested in UFOs and helps keep us informed of what is happening.

"There is a great deal of legitimate UFO information on the Internet, put there by competent researchers. Before the Internet came along, the only way most people could gain such information was through books, journals and conferences; a very slow process. Now a spectacular UFO case can be publicised almost immediately.

"Currently, by using the Internet, I am in fairly regular contact with researchers in Spain, Turkey, Ukraine, Belgium, New Zealand, Australia, Brazil, Canada and the United States, with occasional contact in other countries. This would not have been possible a few years ago using just the regular mails.

To read some of Bob's case files, visit his excellent site at www.bobpratt.org

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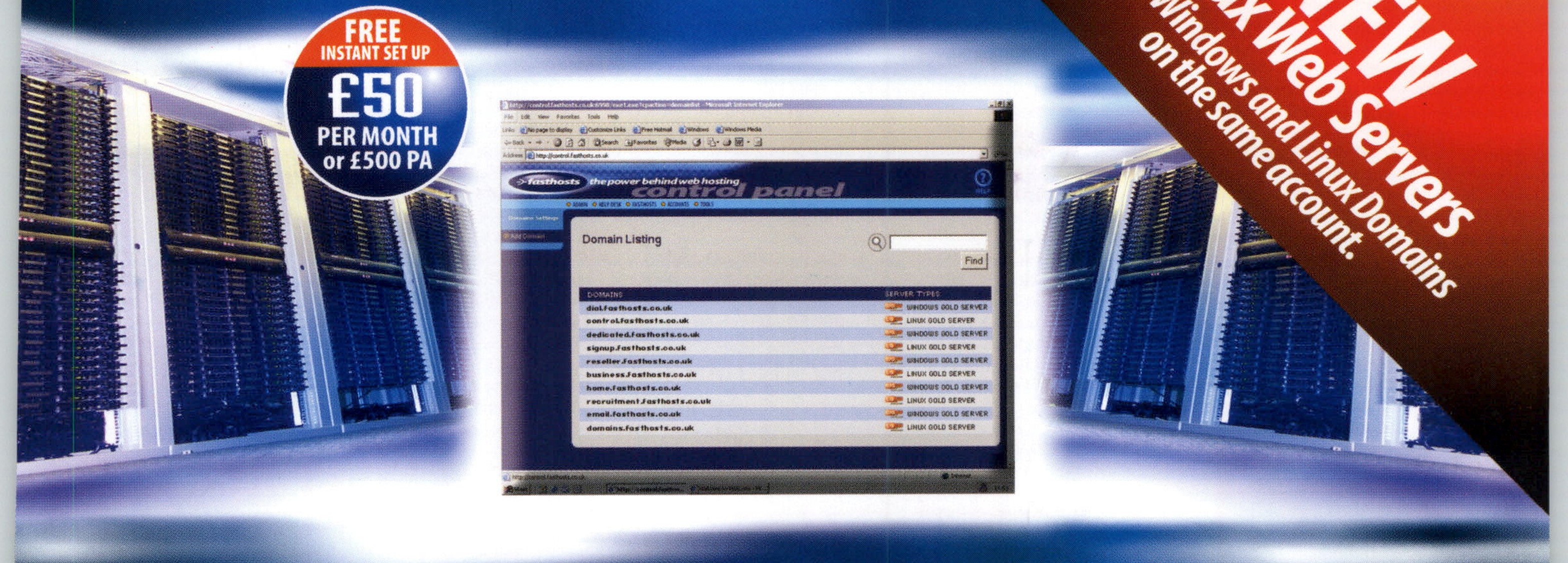

Domain Listing

DOMAINS	SERVER TYPES
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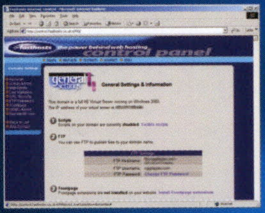
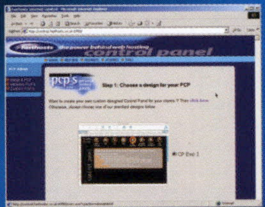
control.fasthosts.co.uk	LINUX GOLD SERVER
dedicated.fasthosts.co.uk	WINDOWS GOLD SERVER
signup.fasthosts.co.uk	LINUX GOLD SERVER
reseller.fasthosts.co.uk	WINDOWS GOLD SERVER
business.fasthosts.co.uk	LINUX GOLD SERVER
home.fasthosts.co.uk	WINDOWS GOLD SERVER
recruitment.fasthosts.co.uk	LINUX GOLD SERVER
email.fasthosts.co.uk	WINDOWS GOLD SERVER
domains.fasthosts.co.uk	LINUX GOLD SERVER

TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR OWN DATA CENTRE

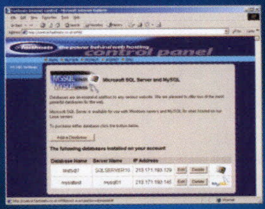
HOST UNLIMITED DOMAINS USING YOUR OWN ADVANCED WEB BASED CONTROL PANEL



100% Control over your domain names



Setup private label control panels for your customers that control just one of your domain names



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